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Lane Birdlip 3 Vols

## SKETCH OF A TOUR

ONTHE

# CONTINENT,

IN THE YEARS 1786 AND 1787,

BY

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<sup>&</sup>quot;Italy is only a fine well-known academy figure, from which we all fit down to make drawings, according as the light falls, and our own feat affords opportunity."



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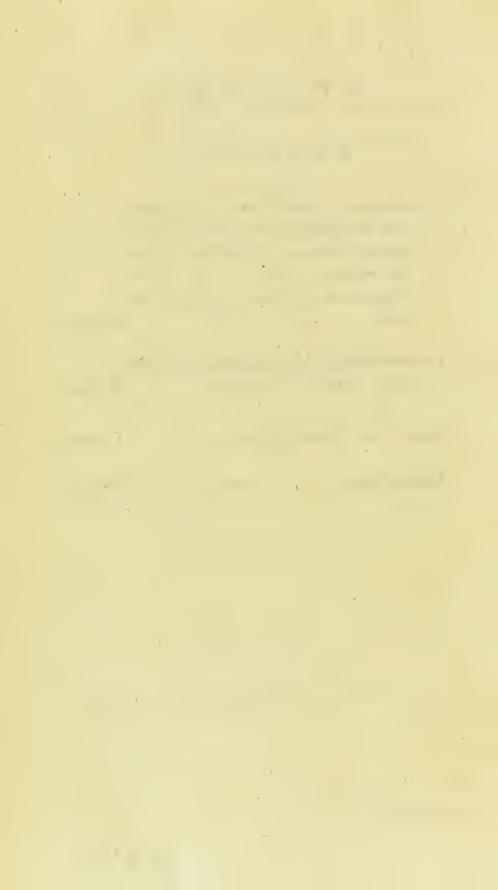
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### SKETCH OF A TOUR

ON THE

## CONTINENT.

### CHAP. XXXV.

FROM VENICE TO PADOUA, VICENZA,
VERONA, MANTUA, PARMA, PIACENZA, AND MILAN.

May 28. A BOUT feven in the morning we went on board the public barge for Padoua, in company with a young Livonian, whom we had known at Paris. The paffengers were at least fifty in all, mostly of Vol. III.

B agreeable

agreeable appearance; and although crowded, we had a very pleasant voyage. As the barge was towed by boats through the laguni, some custom-house officers came on board; but a few pence faved us the trouble of opening trunks. A young fludent of law amused the company by reading some of the Pucelle d'Orleans in French, and then translating it, for the benefit of the ladies, into Italian, which he did with fo much readiness, we thought for some time he had a printed version in his book. He contrived to get through most of it with great humour, and no breach of delicacy, at least according to the manners of his country. Whether this faid reading opened the confidence of. the company more than would otherwise have been the case, I cannot tell; but we were highly diverted with some articles of the fcandalous chronicle of Venice, though, from the ftyle of relating them, much was lost on us foreigners.

We were towed up the Brenta, a pretty rapid river, by horses. The banks are occupied by country-houses and little towns, neat enough, and much resembling Holland.

Here the noble Venetians have their villas, many of which are in a great style of magnificence, especially that of the Procurator Tron, whose lady is particularly celebrated at Venice for her brilliant assemblies, where strangers, and particularly the English, meet with the most flattering attentions.

We dined but indifferently at Dolo. The waiter had his hair ornamented with ripe cherries, a style of decoration more suitable for the ringlets of a pretty girl. The people of both sexes in this country generally stick slowers in their hair, often with great taste.

In the afternoon some of our party adjourned to the roof of the boat. Passed the superb Villa Pisani, and about five entered Padoua, by a gate of an elegant design, except that the upper part is too heavy. No examination here.

Padoua is a large fcattered town, like an immense village, with much open ground, and little appearance of business. Most of the streets are constructed with arcades, as at Bologna; but not so well built. We lodged at the Stella d'Oro, no very excellent inn.

B 2 The

The curiofities of this place are far from numerous. St. Anthony's church is a spacious gothic edifice, not very richly ornamented; but furnished with many sepulchras monuments, for the most part in a heavy turgid style; the only one in a fine taste being that of Cardinal Bembo, the architecture of which is in Palladio's manner, and the buft of the Cardinal good. Among others appears a monument for the famous learned Lady Helena Lucretia Cornelia Piscopia, related to the Cornaro family, who received the doctoral laurel in this university. She died in 1688, aged thirty-eight. Several tombs are here suspended against the walls. as at Venice and Pisa. The chapel of St. Anthony, richly ornamented with architecture and fculpture, has feveral huge lamps. of filver constantly burning, which, oppoling their feeble and ill-coloured rays to the splendour of the noon-tide sun, are but too striking an emblem of the spirit of that devotion, which feems to evince its ardour chiefly by fuch worthless facrifices, too often I fear substituted for the incense of the heart. The body of St. Anthony lies in the altar

Here are feveral alto-relievos by Campagna and others. Opposite is the more antique chapel of St. Felix, the fecond pope, whose relicks repose in an altar of porphyry. The walls are painted in fresco, by Giotto and his contemporaries. Among other historical pieces, he has represented the Siege of Milan by the Emperor Charles IV. The choir of this church is handfomely ornamented with red Verona marble, common in all the buildings of Padoua, with a fine candelabrum of bronze, the work of Crispo Ariosto. Over the high altar stands the bronze crucifix, by Donatello, mentioned in the Manuel, and five other flatues by the fame sculptor. They did not appear to me at all worth notice. Over the stalls are some bad basso-relievos of the fame metal. A handsome chapel behind the choir contains the tongue of St. Anthony, that very tongue which preached to the fish; and if it were continually preaching now, as it hangs, it could not be held in greater veneration. The Martyrdom of St. Agatha, by Ticpolo, is far from a good picture; the colouring too gay, and not natural; the faint's head is the best part.

B 3

The

The finest church in Padoua, with respect to architecture, is St. Giustina, which Addifon and common report attribute to Palladio; but De la Lande and Professor Martyn mention Andrea Riccio as the architect. The building is spacious, and in a very great style, particularly the great dome, and those of the cross aisles. The roof and walls are of a plain stone-colour, but the altars richly adorned with inlaid flowers and other ornaments in pietre durc, very well done, though many of them already in decay. On one of the altars stands a marble group, as large as life, of our Saviour taken from the Crofs, with the Virgin, St. John, and Mary Magdalen; which has fome merit, though not much. The latter is a very awkward figure; St. John is better. To the criticism in Cochin and the Manuel, on the high altarpiece, by Paul Veronese, I have only to add that the fky is now totally changed, and become quite green. The colouring of the figures in the Glory, especially their drapery, is very hard and bad. Under this altar repoles the body of St. Giustina, who, it seems,

was a Padouan faint, and is now the patroness of the town.

The Prata della Valle, before this church, is a thing unique in its kind; a green oval enclosure, surrounded with a canal, along whose banks are ranged numerous statues of illustrious men of the country, standing on handsome pedestals, which are not yet all occupied; nor are the intended four bridges over the canal yet completed. Within this enclosure the annual fair is held.

The cathedral has little worth feeing. Giotto's Virgin is kept with great veneration, its face covered with gauze. That of Titian happily is not fo honoured, though infinitely more worthy. Its composition and colouring reminded me of Raphael's fine Holy Family in the Treasury at Loretto. Here is Petrarch's portrait among those of other canons of Padoua. If he resembled it, Laura's coldness feems less wonderful.

I shall not repeat old quotations and controversies about the supposed tomb of Antenor; nor the history of the lapis vituperii in the great public hall, which is one of the largest rooms, without columns, in Europe,

B. 4

three hundred feet by one hundred, and contains a meridian line. Its walls are ornamented with old bad paintings, and bufts of fome illustrious men, among others Livy; all which have been described over and over again.

The building of the University is of a fquare form, with a court in the centre, furrounded with arcades, in a good ftyle; defigned by Palladio, or, according to fome, by Sanfovino. Its walls are covered with coats of arms, and names of those who have taken degrees here, among whom we found feveral English and Scotch. The anatomy school is the worst I ever faw; very small, and so dark that, incredible as it may feem, the lectures are always given by torch-light, the students being arranged in galleries one above another as in the operation-room at Edinburgh, but much more perpendicular, fo that the whole is like a chimney; and the students must be deliciously fumigated with the fmoke of the torches, and the steams of the body on the table.

The Botanic Garden, one of the best I have seen in Italy, contains many uncom-

mon plants, though we observed nothing absolutely new. Many things grow here in a state of luxuriance unknown in our climate. Bignonia tetraphylla, now full of slowers, covered a large wall in the open air with its beautiful festoons, and Sterculia platanifolia, a tree thirty feet high, has sometimes ripened its fruit here. Professor Marsigli was from home; but the gardener gave me seeds of the Sterculia.

We had letters to the celebrated Mr. Arduino, formerly professor of botany, but now of agriculture. From him the Arduina was named; and he sent Linnæus those rare Brasil plants, chiefly described in the Mantissa, and by himself in his second Specimen Animadversionum Botanicarum. He told me they were gathered by Father Panegai, an astronomer.

Professor Arduino is a great maker of experiments relative to agriculture and œconomical objects. He shewed us thread made of the bark of Palma Christi, Ricinus communis, and very good thread, with strong cloth, from the same part of Asclepias fruti-

cofas

cofa, with another kind of cloth made of the down of its feeds, carded and fpun, which his fons used to wear for clothing, and which he affured us was very ftrong. It looks and feels like tolerably fine woollen cloth. I observed, with surprise, that it was moth-eaten, which Mr. Arduino attributed to its being dreffed with oil. This Asclepias grows without any trouble in Italy, though a Cape plant, and produces abundance of feed. He also shewed us good sugar and treacle procured from Holcus Cafer, described and figured by himfelf, among other species, in a differtation on that genus. Surely the large Holci would be worth cultivating in Europe for fugar. They are 'annuals of quick growth, and very large bulk, abounding with faccharine juice as much as the fugar-cane, at least in Italy. The professor has invented a machine for fowing feed, of the merits of which I do not presume to judge.

Dr. Gallini, Professor of the Theory of Medicine in this University, seemed well informed concerning the newest medical publications and discoveries. He is said to be the author of a Venetian Medical Journal, in which having spoken rather slightly of Dr. Mascagni's discoveries at Sienna, he received a fort of indignant letter from Mascagni. Writers of critical publications must never expect to fatisfy every author, even by indiscriminate praise, much less by censure, especially if it be merited. I had heard much of an author of the name of Rosa, who wrote against the circulation of the blood a few years fince; and I now, for the first time, learned that he is Professor of the Theory of Medicine at Modena, an ingenious man, who, from a thirst for celebrity, undertook to invalidate the grounds upon which the Harveian doctrine is built. His opinions were published in five letters, now very rare; and having never feen them, I can be no judge of their ingenuity, which is their only possible merit. Dr. Gallini informed us, that intermittent fevers are frequent at Venice in August, as well as about Padoua; also a very severe kind, which proves fatal in the fecond fit, if not flopped by great doses of bark, with a purge. The last-mentioned circumstance is curious. I remember

remember the St. Lucia bark, Cinchona floribunda, when tried a few years fince at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, used frequently to prove emetic, but cured the ague nevertheless.

The collection of Natural History at the College here was made by Valisheri, and has not since been augmented. It is said to be very poor; we did not see it.

This evening it rained violently, with fine zigzag lightning, as represented in pictures. The season seemed not at all more advanced here than commonly in England at the same period.

May 30. Left Padoua in a voiture of four places, and had a pleafant morning's ride to Vicenza, where, at the Due Rote, we met with good accommodation and great civility; and found a splendid memorial, just erected, of the Duke of Buccleugh's having lately been entertained there.

Vicenza is a small city, abounding in palaces built by Palladio, which contribute much to its beauty, and are the chief objects of a stranger's curiosity. Every one is wor-

thy of notice; some extremely elegant. Palazzo Tiene is singular for having each of its windows narrower at top than at bottom, each side sloping inwards perhaps three inches; the reason of which I cannot guess, unless the architect considered the narrowness of the street, and meant to give them a kind of perspective; but whatever might be his intention, the effect is bad.

The Palazzo Publico della Ragione is no less elegant than magnificent; but the most curious of all the buildings here is the celebrated Teatro Olympico, now used for masquerades and balls only, for which it feems fcarcely large enough. This jewel of architecture gives a good idea of the theatres of the ancients, which it was meant to imitate. The arena is a femicircle, not spacious, above which rife the feats for the spectators, exactly like those at Nismes; and the upper feat is crowned with a femicircular colonnade, with many statues, above which is a gallery. On the opposite side of the arena is the stage, as in our theatres, raised about five feet, and in the place of the scene a very noble piece of architecture, decorated with

many

many statues, perhaps rather too many. In this are three great apertures, presenting three streets, represented by models of buildings, diminished according to the rules of perspective, which look well only from the centre of the lower seats of the amphisheatre, and from every other point of view appear distorted; painted scenes are better. The statues are of plaster only. Adjoining is a handsome saloon. The whole belongs to the Academy of Belles Lettres, who call themselves Olympici.

The triumphal arch at the Campo di Marte did not please us at all; it is of the Doric order, with rustic intermixed.

We went to the church of St. Corona, on purpose to see the Adoration of the Magi, by Paul Veronese, and thought our pains well bestowed. The composition much refembles that in St. Silvester's at Venice, but wants the sigure which I there supposed to be a portrait. The drapery and colouring are admirable; the Virgin's head pleasing, and very graceful. Little Jesus seems to be about to weep. The same church contains a picture by Bellino, and one by Mantegna,

both worth looking at. The cathedral has nothing particular about it.

May 31. We left this pretty town at fix in the morning, in the same voiture, for Verona, thirty miles distant. The road very flat, and in some places overflowed. It makes a great curve round the base of that chain of mountains crowned by Monte Baldo, fo celebrated by Italian botanists; but whose top was now covered with snow, as well as the neighbouring much lefs elevated hills, fo that we were reluctantly obliged to give up the thoughts of exploring it. Dined poorly at an inn feventeen miles from Vicenza. The country is a most fertile plain, with fine fwelling hills beyond; in fome? parts producing corn, in others laid out in pastures, bordered with white mulberry trees, and vines hanging about them in luxuriant festoons. The principal plants we noticed among the corn, were the beautiful purple Cow-wheat, Melampyrum arvense; Corn flag, Gladiolus communis, which is one of their most troublesome weeds; Adonis astivalis, Lathyrus Aphaca, and Coriandrum testiculatum; the latter, when bruised, smelling like the flowers of Hyacinthus racemosus, or like starch.

Entered Verona about fix, without any examination. The red Verona marble, already fo often mentioned, every where prefents itself in posts, bridges, &c. The town is large, and of handsome appearance, especially when seen from the bridge over the Adige, in the middle of the city.

June 1. Provided as usual with a guide, we began our perambulations, first examining the Palazzo del Podestà, or town-house, an old irregular building, whose walls are covered with bufts and coats of arms, in stone, of numbers of great men who have formerly deferved well of the country. All the inscriptions of these monuments have been erased, the reason of which we enquired in vain. Possibly it was done when the Venetians became masters of the town: if fo, I was inclined to think, by the leave of those fapient politicians, their proceeding rather injudicious; for one would imagine the dumb eloquence of these erasures more galling

galling to a manly spirit, and more likely to stir up the noble rage of the soul, than any inscriptions whatever. But perhaps the conquerors have judged, that although such might be the case with the then present generation, sollowing ones would find less food for reflection in these blanks, than in a significant inscription, and I do not doubt their being in the right.

Opposite to this edifice, at the corner of a street, one cannot avoid remarking a small piece of ground, enclosed with a marble wall and iron rails, occupied by several very ancient tombs of the Scaligeri, formerly lords of Verona. Two of these mausoleums are very superbly constructed, being a kind of lofty gothic temples, or canopies, at whose corners are statues, and a sarcophagus raised high in the middle of each, enclosing the bodies.

At St. George's church are two celebrated performances of Paul Veronese. That over the high altar, St. George's Martyrdom, is the best; the other has more of the peculiar manner of this master. The saint is repre-

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fented refusing to worship idols, and his expression is good.

The cathedral, a gloomy gothic pile, poffesses nothing worth going to see, except Titian's Assumption of the Virgin, and that is a dark dirty picture, with little to recommend it. The Manuel praises it quite enough. I cannot help observing how much this subject has been multiplied by painters. For one assumption of Christ, we find twenty of the Virgin, and fifty miracles of pretended faints for one of the authentic events of scripture. The reason of this is not difficult to discover. It is expedient to impress most on the minds of the people, those legends whose historical evidence is the weakest; more especially if they tend to fupport what scripture and reason do not authorize.

How majestically does the Amphitheatre of Verona exalt itself in the centre of the town, above all the surrounding works of modern days! On approaching this venerable fabrick, we admire it as a ruin, like the Colosseo at Rome; for of the outer wall scarcely

icarcely any thing remains. But when we find ourselves in the area, with the seats rifing around to the very top, absolutely perfect and entire, we almost forget that it is not still in use, and that these fine marble steps have braved the inclemency of 1700 feasons. De la Lande calculates twenty-two thousand people might conveniently sit in this theatre, and that it held even a greater number when the Pope passed through Verona in 1782. The Emperor Joseph II. was entertained here with a bull-fight in 1769. The ranges of feats are forty-five, but it appears there have been confiderably more, the uppermost being ruined. De la Lande supposes the building was never completed. Here we gathered Potentilla grandiflora, Melica ciliata, and fome other plants which had not yet occurred in our journey; and from the top enjoyed a pretty complete view of the town, with the fine furrounding country, crowned by the fnow-clad fummits of Mount Baldus.

Porta dei Borsari, said to have been a triumphal arch of the Emperor Gallienus, is of an unusual form, being two equal arches

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by the fide of each other. Its style is feeble and degenerate, as becomes a triumphal arch of Gallienus.

The Theatre designed by Palladio displays his fine taste, especially the Ionic portico. Adjoining is a collection of antique inscriptions and sculptures made by the late Marquis Scipio Massei. I noted a Greek codicil to a will on red porphyry, and a little bit of sculpture, of doubtful antiquity, in a kind of porphyry I never saw before; like the common red, but with very distinct white spots, and yellow ones intermixed. They call it here Egyptian granite. The collection contains nothing very remarkable.

The Castel Vecchio, a gothic building conftructed and inhabited by one of the Scaligers in the middle of the fourteenth century, has a gothic bridge adjoining, whose central arch is very wide, and, if I remember right, there are four arches besides, all semicircular.

San Micheli's famous Porta del Pallio is fimply a range of four or five arches, with intermediate Doric columns, and a cornice, no pediment. I must ingenuously confess we could not discover its extraordinary perfection.

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fection. Its simplicity is undoubtedly beautiful, and the design faultless; but the character is like that of a Venetian picture, wanting both the great sublimity of Michael Angelo, and the refined elegance of Raphael. The building of the fair, or the Dogana, by the same architect has a very elegant colonnade at the extremity of the court. Not far distant stands a palace, likewise designed by him. He seems to have been much averse to pediments.

An apothecary of this town possesses a very extensive collection of fish in fand-stone, like those of Mr. Seguier at Nismes. He said the Empress of Russia was then in treaty for the whole, and that he had sent her a catalogue. We purchased two or three little specimens not catalogued. That so much talked of, in which one fish appears to have been petrified in the act of swallowing another, is not conclusive to me; or rather, I am persuaded, it is a deception, though as the two skeletons happen to lie, they have that appearance.

Near the theatre we found one of the prettieft, and indeed most magnificent, coffee-

 $C_3$ 

houses

houses in Italy, and pleasantly situated. The town in general is rather spacious and airy than otherwise.

June 2. Our Livonian friend, Mr. Liljenfeldt, was inclined to go the nearest way to Milan; we could not think of missing Mantua, Parma, and Piacenza, and therefore here took leave of him. Mantua is twenty-five miles from Verona: the road flat. The country reminded me of some of the Essex part of the road from Newmarket to London; but we could have spared some decorations, which our own heretical country happily does not know, several stone crosses where people had been assassinated, one so lately as the preceding January.

On entering the Mantuan territories, our trunks were flightly visited, and, at our defire, sealed up to prevent trouble at any of the following doganas; but this is of little consequence, as the pilfering officers may visit, if they please, notwithstanding the seals, and generally look for a trisling gratification if they do not. We have found the Imperial dominions, and especially the Milanese,

best regulated in this respect. The officers there are generally civil, and neither impose upon travellers, nor trouble them unnecessarily. Petty princes, like the Duke of Parma, and their servants, have little else to do than to busy themselves about such matters, and their formalities are endless.

Mantua is more famous and more remarkable as the birth-place of Virgil, who was born at least in its neighbourhood, than for any thing elfe. Few towns are more fingularly fituated, as it is environed with much more water than dry land, and the fortifications are very strong. The approach from Verona is through feven or eight gates along a causeway. The lake, however beautiful an object, must surely render the town unhealthy. It was now the time of the fair, held in a circular building like St. Mark's; but after that, this Mantuan fair had not charms fufficient to detain us. Whether we were in a fit of ennui I cannot tell; but the town feemed uncommonly dull. We looked into the large church of St. Andrew, which is in a good style of architecture, but covered with paltry painted decorations. An C 4 infeription

inscription informed us that some of Christ's blood was preserved there, which, as has been said by the reputed eleven hundred rooms in the Vatican, we had rather believe than examine. The cathedral was shut. The Ducal palace, spoiled of its former riches, is said to have little to tempt a stranger to walk through its deserted apartments; nor did we visit it. After a bad maigre dinner, we found a voiturin to conduct us to Parma for three sequins.

Arriving at Borgo forte on the banks of the Po, croffed that river in a large ferryboat. The banks abound with Lombardy Poplars, descendants, no doubt, of Phaeton's sisters. We journeyed along in the cool of the evening, still

" -----Phaetonteâ fub umbrâ,"

and reached Guastalla in the Duke of Parma's dominions, where a traveller is very decently accommodated. The road hither was chiefly along a bank, the country very low, almost overflowed; but richly planted with white mulberries, vines, and corn.

June 3. (Sunday.) The road lay along a bank as yesterday. The soil being clay, must be extremely bad in rainy weather; probably the very counterpart of that delectable caufeway between Bologna and Ferrara. In the environs of the little town of Brefullo we met numbers of rustic beaux and belles; the former with the crowns of their hats encircled with real or artificial flowers, and the women with remarkably fmall round ftraw hats, not so broad as a plate, some of them ridiculously loaded with trumpery finery. These hats being quite insufficient to screen their faces from the burning sun, most of these ladies displayed their fans with an air of much coquetry, to guard complexions already like those of the most tawny country man in England. These peasants appear cheerful, as Lady Miller observes, and not poor; their countenances are fenfible and agreeable; but I could not agree with her ladyship in admiring the taste of their dress, though very much in the style of opera shepherds and shepherdesses.

The road improved towards Parma. The country on each fide is extremely rich and beautiful,

beautiful, crowded with vines intermixed with corn. The chain of Apennines between Bologna and Florence, bounds the profpect on the left, and their tops covered with everlasting snow, are a majestic termination of the landscape. Their effect was peculiarly striking in the afternoon from the bridge of Parma, when the parts unoccupied by snow had acquired the purple evening tinge.

Parma is a very handsome neat town; the streets well built and spacious, especially the principal one. I have seen few places of a more agreeable aspect, not even Turin. Numbers of officers and abbés, lounging about the streets and cossee-houses, do not tempt one to a permanent residence there.

Here we began to experience something like heat, not however sufficient to impede our routine of business. We had letters to Father Affò, first librarian to the royal public library, and found him at the Convent of the Annunciata, sitting in his own little library, in the dress of a Franciscan. He received us very kindly, and with great affability. His countenance and manners were by no means those of a mortified friar,

though

though Dr. Younge made an entomological remark upon his dress, which happily escaped me, to be attributed, no doubt, to the odious disuse of linen, which these monks think a part of their duty. However simple this good Father might be in his own apparel, his library was elegant and neat, most of the books being sinely bound. His favourite study is history, in which he has eminently distinguished himself, particularly by a history of Guastalla in three volumes 4to. and memoirs of several eminent men of his country, Parmiggianino among others.

In the convent is a picture by that celebrated painter in his early manner, more curious for shewing the progress of his style, than for any very eminent merit; there are great faults in the drawing. The church of this convent, of an oval form, with a very bold arched roof, contains an Annunciation of Corregio, much impaired; but the heads of the Virgin and Angel are both admirable; far superior in grace and propriety of expression to most I have seen.

The church of the Capucini is the burialplace of the famous Alexander Farnese, whose tomb-

tomb-stone is in the middle of the nave. He was interred in the habit of a capuchin. Such a piece of mummery, or any other fign of fuperstitious horror at the approach of death, might have become the more bloody flaves of the butcher of Europe, Philip II. fuch as the Duke of Alva; Alexander Farnese must have had great latent faults and weaknesses in his character to have been capable of it. The altar-piece, by Annibal Carracci, reprefents a dead Christ, with the Virgin fainting in the arms of angels, and St. Francis shewing his stigmata in an exulting manner before the dead body. The thought is fingular, and the picture, on the whole, not agreeable.

The Madonna della Steccata, a dark church in itself, was now rendered more so by some red curtains, it being Trinity Sunday, fo that we could hardly see the famous spirited painting, by Parmiggianino, of Moses breaking the Tables, which, however, is well known by the print.

At the cathedral the principal curiofity is the cupola, painted by Corregio; but it is fo high, and has fuffered fo much, we could

make nothing of it, and were absolutely unable to understand the design, nothing being discernible, except some very finely drawn sigures boldly foreshortened, which made us the more regret the injuries time has done to this celebrated performance, originally an Assumption of the Virgin, who is, indeed, now quite removed from mortal sight.

The other celebrated cupola of the fame painter, at St. John the Evangelist's, is scarcely more distinguishable, being, though in better preservation, very ill lighted. I do not presume to criticise these productions. A figure of St. John, likewise by Corregio, on the wall over the door of the facristy, was much more within reach of my comprehension, as well as of my visual organs. Nothing can be more beautiful or more sublime than this head; the hands and arms are not equally good. Two other pictures of the same artist, mentioned by Cochin and the Manuel, disappointed us.

At St. Sepolchro we were exceffively charmed with the Madonna della Scodella, the first work of Corregio's that answered

"In couleur n'est pas bien forte." We thought it remarkably rich and brilliant, and the chiar' oscuro very good, with all the clear softness of this master. The Virgin's head is charming. She presents a dish, Scodella, to St. John, who is filling it with water; not warm water, like Cupid in Angelica Kaussman's supposed picture, in that droll pamphlet the Anticipation of the Exhibition. Joseph is gathering dates and giving them to the infant Jesus, whose sigure is very engaging.

The public walks here are not striking. We saw the Duchess in her coach in the street: she seemed a majestic sigure, and assumed an air of stateliness bordering on the ridiculous, as if she was afraid of being supposed to see, much less to be pleased with, the genussections of the people as she passed. I could name sovereigns who secure the hearts as well as the respect of their subjects, by a different and more natural demeanour. As to mere majesty of carriage, without much winning sweetness, the unfortunate Queen of France possessed it in a superior degree

degree to any human being I ever faw. She might be known from all her court, like Calypso among her nymphs.

June 4. We attended Father Affò, by appointment, to the public library, established by the sovereign within these twenty years, and open to every body who chooses to study there. The principal room is a fine gallery; the more rare books being in lesser apartments adjoining.

Here we faw the fame edition of Apollonius Rhodius, as at Venice. Henry VIIIth's book in defence of the church. Hypnorotomachia Poliphili, in Latin, date 1499, and one of the French editions of the fame (Songe de Poliphile) with the fine wooden cuts, faid to have been defigned by Raphael or his scholars. The author of this famous and fingular book was Francis Colonna, a Dominican friar at Rome. We were also shewn a book of law, by Lanfranc, printed by Francesco de Silva at Turin, 1497. Albertus Magnus de Animalibus, Venice, 1495. Six rare editions of Pliny's Natural History, viz. Roma, in ad. Maximorum, 1470: by Tenson,

Jenson, 1472: Parmæ, Steph. Coralio, 1476: Parma, 1480: Parma, 1481: Brixia, 1496. Hermolai Barbari Castigationes in Plinium, 1495. A book, whether in Latin or Italian I forget, relating to the interment of St. Francis Xavier, printed in China on Chinese paper, with wooden blocks made in that country. Also a superb Chinese book, printed with gold characters on blue paper. A fine Homer, printed at Florence very early. Aristotle, by Aldus, extremely rare. A botanical manuscript in French; three volumes folio, with rude coloured drawings of plants, the work of Jacques Reboul, a phyfician of Provence, who, having loft his eye-fight before this book was finished, completed feveral chapters afterwards with his own hand. They have here the Hortus Malabaricus, Salvianus de Piscibus; but none of Jacquin's works, nor any rare ones of Linnæus. The richest part of this library are the historical books. Father Affò, being the first librarian, is particularly attentive to all publications on history.

Some trifling antiquities found at Velleia, are kept in a room adjoining, and travellers

are shewn a small bronze medal, which pretends to have been struck at Ithaca, and the head upon it is, of course, supposed to be a portrait of Ulysse—few people probably will believe that Ulysses sat for it, and even the person who shewed us the collection acknowledged this medal had no pretensions to authenticity.

The great Theatre, so justly celebrated for its fize and the magnificence of its defign, is now disused, and falling into decay, the decorations being all wood. It is too large for the town, and the expence of lighting it up is fo confiderable, that there has fcarcely been a theatrical exhibition here these fifty years; nor is this noble edifice of any use, except very rarely for a malquerade, or fomething of that kind, on great festivals. There are pipes and machines for filling the pit with water for naval exhibitions; but this has not been practifed fince the time of the Farnese family, who built the theatre. It is feen to great difadvantage by day, and one feels, as Lady Miller remarks, as if under ground in a vast deep and dark mine; but any great theatre has the same effect when not lighted

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up, and I can conceive this, with its full architectural decorations all in due proportion, would, if clean, well illuminated, and filled with company, be extremely magnificent; nor can any judgment be formed now in its empty state, of what effect music would have in it if full. The fingular distinctness with which the least noise on the stage is heard in every part of the house, is the most curious circumstance attending this building; nor has the cause been discovered. A small very elegant theatre adjoining, feems like a mere opera box, after coming out of the other. Here the Farnese family used sometimes to amuse themselves with acting plays in person.

Under the same roof the Academy of Painting and Sculpture has apartments. The specimens of the scholars performances in general do them honour. Here is the master-piece of Corregio, the Virgin and Child, with an angel holding a book to the latter, the Magdalen on one side kneeling to kis the infant's foot, and St. Jerome standing on the other. I had not seen, or at least did not remember, Lady Miller's extrava-

gant philippic against this picture; but was as much displeased as herself with the odd ugly mouth and chin of the little Jesus, as well as the too great width, and rather filly expression, of the angel's mouth. These faults are very striking at the first glance; but a little contemplation of this charming picture makes one forget all its defects. The child, though ugly, is perfectly natural, and Lady Miller's remarks on the Magdalen appear to me totally erroneous. She appears about to kifs the child's foot, while at the same moment he has caught hold of her hair, and this occasions that gentle and most natural inclination of the head, yielding to his grasp, which Lady Miller says makes it impossible for her to apply any thing to the foot but her ear. The action is so just, I have no doubt it was taken from the obfervation of nature. The angel behind, with the vafe, has certainly an ideotic stare, and St. Jerome looks like a baboon, as the Italians generally paint him. But the chief merits of this famous painting are of a kind more calculated to engage the admiration of profound connoisscurs and artists, than ama-

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of colouring in the flesh, except only the Virgin's head; the most delicate things rendered, as Cochin says, seemingly by accident, with other effects of masterly execution, will ever, in spight of faults of composition, and even of drawing, rank this performance among the treasures of Italy. Unhappily those very perfections are the most difficult to be imitated, and therefore sew copies of this picture shew any thing but its defects. The blackened shades of the Virgin's head are easily, and always faithfully, retained, while the delicate colouring of the Magdalen can scarcely be seen, but in the original.

This painting is in excellent prefervation, and kept with great care. Some particular persons are permitted to copy it, under great restrictions, with an overseer to prevent damage. An Abbé was at work when we were there, and his performance tolerable.

A very great curiofity in its way is the Parma printing-office, carried on under the direction of Mr. Bodoni, who has brought that art to a degree of perfection fearcely known before him. Nothing could exceed

his civility in shewing us numbers of the beautiful productions of his press, of which he gave us some specimens, as well as the operations of casting and finishing the letters. He was extremely anxious to procure a certain kind of very fmall files, only to be had at Sheffield, and which he faid feveral travelling gentlemen and noblemen had promifed to fend him, but without keeping their word. We were happy in supplying him immediately on our return. The materials of his types are antimony and lead, as in other places; but he shewed us some of fleel. He has fets of all the known alphabets, with diphthongs, accents, and other peculiarities, in the greatest perfection. His Greek types are peculiarly beautiful, though of a different kind of beauty from those of old Stephens, and perhaps less free and flowing in their forms. His paper is all made at Parma. The manner in which Mr. Bodoni gives his works their beautiful fmoothness, so that no impression of the letters is perceptible on either fide, is the only part of his business that he keeps secret. This effect is produced fufficiently well by means of a hot

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press, as practised in London. Our Shake-spear press indeed leaves nothing to be defired in that of Parma.

We found books in this town generally dear. I bought a magnificent copy of Plumier's Filices, indeed, for thirty-five shillings, not a third of its value; but I verily believe the bookseller intended, to the best of his knowledge, to make me pay very dear for it, so exorbitant were his demands for every thing else.

June 5. Engaged a voiture for Milan, price five fequins, without being fed. We found the inniteepers in the north of Italy honest enough to be trusted, at least so much as only to ask the price of our accommodation on entering, and even if that precaution was neglected, we were seldom much imposed on. Lest Parma at five in the morning. The road level, through a pleasant and rich, though low, country, to Firenzuola. Reached Piacenza in the afternoon.

This is a neat little fortified town, but the streets narrow, and paved with small sharp stones, without foot-walks. In the princi-

pal piazza are the equestrian statues of Aleffandro and Rainulfo Farnese, mentioned in all books. The former looks as if he were riding against a high wind. Both have great beauties and great defects: the drapery is sine. Cochin's criticism on these statues is elaborate and just.

June 6. Paid an early visit to the cathedral, a gothic edifice, tolerably handsome within. The altar was covered with filver, and a large chandelier of the fame metal decorated each pillar of the nave, as a preparation for the feast of Corpus Domini. This finery however was certainly less attractive to us than the painted cupola of Guercino, the only thing which brought us hither, nor did we repent. It is one of the best of his works; though in fresco, having all the beauty of oil, at least as much as his famous Aurora at Rome. The composition is in eight compartments, each of them occupied by a prophet, with little cherubs below. In the choir are two pictures relating to the funeral and afcention of the Virgin, by Ludovico Carracci, in a great but unpleafant

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style. The figures are much too colossal for their situation, and the colouring cold and dead. An altar-piece on the south side of the nave is a good Crucifixion, by a female Bolognese painter: although rather stiff, the sigures have merit. Near it is the Death of St. Francis Xavier, by Fiamingo, in which are some pretty cherubs, and the expression of the saint is good.

Leaving this place about ten, we foon crossed the Po, even here a considerable river, and after travelling four or five miles farther, entered the Milanese territories. The civil officers at the custom-house trusting to our words that we had nothing contraband, put their feals upon our trunks unexamined, fo that we entered Milan without farther trouble. The road here is so extremely fandy, that we could not get to Lodi, twenty-one miles from Piacenza, till five o'clock. The Gambaro at Lodi is a very decent inn, The cathedral, an ugly building, was ornamented for to-morrow's festival with indifferent tapeftry, made after those very cartoons of Raphael, now at Windfor-caftle, about the bad preservation and neglect of which

which fo many stories have been told by party calumny, as ill-founded as the generality of political tittle-tattle, that occasionally frets or amuses John Bull.

June 7. Left Lodi early. The morning was very fine; the road new and good, through a flat country, watered by ditches and canals of various levels, often carried across each other on bridges. This is for the purpose of inundating the rice fields, numerous in the plains of Lombardy, each of which is enclosed with little banks to keep in the water. The young plants of rice were now about fix inches in height.

Great appearance of population and opulence as we approach Milan, whose gates we entered by ten. The principal streets were covered with awnings and ornamented with tapestry in honour of the day; but the procession of Corpus Domini had already finished its rounds, during our procession from Lodi to Milan. In the evening, however, we saw the same ceremony on a lesser scale in the cathedral.

On our arrival we experienced one of the most irksome disappointments a traveller can know. A friend had given us leave to order our letters from home to be directed to the house of the Abbé Oriani, Astronomer Royal, but had neglected to inform Mr. Oriani of this arrangement. Accordingly we found our letters had been returned to the postoffice, and there was much reason to fear, had been fent after a person of my name to Venice. No farther information could be had till next morning, on account of the festival. Even the obliging attentions of Mr. Oriani could scarcely make the rest of this day pass tolerably; but on the following our anxiety was removed by finding all fafe at the post-office, when seventeen packets fell to my share. This introduction to the Abbé Oriani, imperfect and awkward as it was, procured us to much kindness and affiftance from this amiable man, as I cannot fusficiently acknowledge. He had no reafon to be prepoffessed in favour of our countrymen, having just before experienced very different behaviour from certain great personages

personages in his own line in England, notwithstanding the best recommendations; but he treated us as if he were paying a debt of gratitude, instead of humanity. I have ever since been proud to cultivate his friendship.

## CHAP. XXXVI.

MILAN—PAVIA, AND FROM THENCE TO GENOA.

W E began our examination of Milan with scientific matters, and with them I shall therefore begin my account.

The building belonged to the Jesuits, and is very magnificent, with beautiful galleries and colonnades of granite, spacious apartments, where the arts and sciences are now taught gratis, and where the various profeffors are comfortably, and even sumptuously, lodged. The collection of casts from all the most esteemed antique sculptures are very good. Our kind guide introduced us to the Professor of Sculpture, who was then at work on a very good bust, and seemed a

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man of enthusiasm and taste. The observatory is furnished with several fine instruments, some made in England, others in France; and there are fome of Milanefe workmanship far from despicable. The library is rich in history, and more particularly fo in natural history, for it contains part of the library of Haller, bought, with his Herbarium, for 2000 louis d'or, and divided by the Emperor between this place and Pavia. The books of Haller amounted in all to fourteen or fifteen thousand volumes. I faw a copy of the last edition of his Historia Stirpium Helveticarum interleaved, with notes. His hand-writing is very fmall, not much unlike that of Linnæus, but less legible. The remarkable books we were shewn besides, were Fust's bible, dated 1462; a fine Livy printed at Milan in 1480, and Dante in 1478 likewise at Milan; St. Jerome's Epistles, Rome 1468; a very curious old volume of wooden cuts, of at least as early a date as 1440, according to the librarian. It represents the life of Antichrist-not of the pope, or his allies, the devil and pretender, but of a person who

is always attended by devils, and believes neither the mass, nor the immaculate purity of the Virgin; or what is even worse, doubts the honesty of monks. One might add some chapters to this curious work, if a new edition should be called for.

The Botanic Garden is the poorest thing about this College, nor did I perceive in it any new or remarkable plants. Arum Dracunculus in full flower, smelt exactly like the stinking sish-market of St. Mark at Venice.

The Collegio Helvetico, founded by St. Charles Boromeo, is now converted into fome public offices. The building confifts of two handsome quadrangles, surrounded with colonnades of the pale red granite of this country.

The Ambrogian Library is by no means fo confiderable as I expected. Its principal curiofities shewn to travellers are, a Chinese chair, remarkably easy to sit on. Some casts, far from good, of famous statues, among others a fine crucifix of Michael Angelo's at the Escurial. Fragments of most elaborate and delicate carving in marble, once belonging to the tomb of Gaston de Foix, nephew

of Louis XII. of France. This young hero was buried at Milan, but his tomb was deftroyed in some of the wars which so long harraffed this country between the French and Germans; and which form fo fevere a fatire on the character of princes, who ought to be the protectors and peace-makers of mankind. The more just their right to a flate, the more ought they to avoid, like the true mother before Solomon, cutting their children in pieces. How few will stand fuch a test! Even Louis XII. deservedly called the father of his French people, made no scruple of sacrificing thousands even of them, whenever he fancied he could affert his pretenfions to the Milanese with any fhadow of fuccess; and the "fwinish multitude" celebrate fuch exploits, as heroic!

In this library are a few pictures; as the Four Elements, by Ereughel, very highly finished; a Holy Family, and two or three heads, by Bernardino Luvino, a scholar and close imitator of Leonardo da Vinci.

Every body has heard of the great folio manuscript on mechanicks, done by the last-mentioned painter with his own hand, illus-

chines in pen and ink, and written backwards for engraving. James I. of England is faid to have offered an immense sum for this book, which might as well have been accepted, for no use has ever been made of its contents. A no less curious manuscript is the Latin translation of Josephus, by Rusinus, written in the old Lombardy character on papyrus, and on both sides of the leaves, a very unusual circumstance. This must be as old as the fourth century, Rusinus having been a contemporary of St. Jerome.

Dr. Moschati, principal physician to the great hospital here, procured us the complete inspection of that noble charity, and even accompanied us himself through part of it. The building is extremely spacious and noble, the great court particularly so. The internal regulations seemed more methodical and judicious than in any hospital I almost ever saw; nor did I ever enter one so free from bad smells. The number of patients is generally about 900 or 1000 in the house at a time. Separate wards are allotted for cutaneous disorders; severs of all kinds to-

gether, which is a strange oversight, surgical cases, and some others; one ward is set apart for a disease almost peculiar to this country. It appears at first in the form of a scaly eruption, which if not taken care of in time, by administering the warm bath, with good nourishing diet and wine, incurable madness follows. Such is the account we had from our very intelligent guide, which is extremely singular, and affords much room for reslection.

A finaller hospital adjoining is chiefly allotted to venereal disorders, and the small-pox. Even in the wards where the patients were rubbing in mercury, no offensive smell was perceptible. The triturated preparations of mercury are used here, not those made with acids. We looked into a small very neat hospital, served by some Augustine friars, and designed for servants chiefly, as something is required to be paid for the support of the persons admitted. They are very well accommodated.

There is a very good hospital for lunatics, in a retired situation a little way out of town, kept with great neatness and regularity.

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The patients are generally about 100 at a time; all nations and religions are admitted indifcriminately. We were told fcarcely any ever went mad here from devotion, but many for love. Dr. Younge observed, in looking over the regulations, that the patients in all these hospitals are allowed a great deal of cheese; whereas Dr. Home, of Edinburgh, says the British hospitals are in general most accused of giving the patients too much of that food.

The cathedral of Milan is justly esteemed the most magnificent in Italy, after St. Peter's at Rome, and beyond comparison the finest Gothic edifice in the whole country, where indeed buildings in that style are rare. Yet this sine church is unfinished, owing, it is said, to the allotment of considerable sums for that purpose from time to time, which are to continue to be paid annually till the whole is sinished, a sure method of preventing the desired end; nor is a fixth part of the money, according to De la Lande, employed for the intended purpose. This might in some measure be pardoned, if what is employed were judiciously laid out; but

St. Charles Borromeo allowed a frontispiece in a Grecian style to be clapped to this Gothic building, and even that is still unfinished. In vain does De la Lande apologize for it, as in a certain middle style between Grecian and Gothic. There is no middle between them, nor is this frontispiece any thing else than Grecian. It has always appeared wonderful to me that Inigo Jones fell into the same incongruity in his west front to the old church of St. Paul, burnt in the fire of London.

No church in the world perhaps has more statues about it than this of Milan. Most of them are bad; I can scarcely except the samous one of St. Bartholomew holding his skin. It is intolerably hard and stiff; nor is it of much consequence whether the muscles be accurate or not. True science is shewn by representing the muscles of a body in action, with the skin over them; there is no merit in copying them when laid bare and at rest.

Before the high altar, in a fubterraneous chapel, reposes St. Charles Borromeo. This chapel is one of the most remarkable things

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about the cathedral. Nothing can be richer. The hangings are cloth of gold; the architraves of the doors, the cornice, in short every thing but the hangings, is of maffy filver. The cornice is supported by large statues of angels, and adorned with fine altorelievos, all of the fame metal. On the back part of the altar, and raifed a little above it, lies the faint's body in a transverse position, in a case made of large slices, fix or eight inches square, of very fine rock crystal, set in frames of filver, given by Philip IV. of Spain, who was eight years in fearch of a fufficient quantity of crystal. The body is most magnificently dressed in archiepiscopal robes, with abundance of jewels. The face only is visible, and looks like that of an Egyptian mummy. The nofe is nearly gone, which, added to the drawing back of the lips from the teeth, gives the countenance a horrible and ghaftly look. St. Charles died in 1584, aged forty-fix, and rested peaceably in his grave about twentyfour years, till he was made a faint of, and placed here, which must have shocked his boafted humility very much could he have forefeen

foreseen it. His motto was bumilitas. This fuperb shrine is kept covered with a case of wood blackened and ornamented, which is removed for a finall gratuity when strangers come. The common people here have a tradition, that when the canonization of this great archbishop was in contemplation, the only flaw found in his character was his having erected, when legate at Bologna, the famous naked statue of Neptune in the great fquare of that town; and that this impiety was very near preventing his being dubbed a faint at all. He must be allowed to be one of the most respectable of the modern Romish saints, for he had many great and good qualities, though an inclination to a persecuting spirit. His munificence and zeal in forwarding useful establishments, at least as he believed them, his courage and benevolence in the time of the plague of Milan, entitle him to the veneration of his countrymen. Nor can they be charged with want of gratitude; for St. Charles has quite eclipfed the fame of their former patron St. Ambrosc, and engrossed all their devotion.

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We ascended to the top of the dome, and almost to the summit of the little spire in its centre, from whence the eye commands the rich and extensive plains of Lombardy, bounded on one fide by the Apennines, and on the other by the Alps covered with fnow. This dome and pinnacle are entirely of the finest white marble, and look quite new; nor indeed has the upper part been finished many years. The workmanship is wonderfully delicate, and in some places the marble is cut so thin as to be semitransparent, and having a reddish tinge, resembles the alabaster cross at Saint Maria, in Campitelli, at Rome. See vol. ii. p. 153. In most parts it looks like frozen fnow, or fine fugar, both in grain and colour. Upon the roof are workshops for the people employed in the building, who feem to be very numerous; and unless they, like Penelope, destroy what they finish, one can see no reason why the whole might not be very foon completed.

We took great delight in walking in this church about dusk, when almost every body had left it. The declining light through the noble painted windows; the vaulted roofs

roofs rising almost out of sight; the labyrinth of taper columns; the scattered lamps glimmering from subterraneous chapels and solitary shrines and altars,

"While more than echoes creep along the walls," excite a pleafing folemnity of thought, which, from an affociation of ideas, ealily becomes a fpurious kind of devotion, and is generally mistaken for the true.

The Madonna di San Celso, a very rich church, is best worth seeing after the cathedral. Its architect was Bramante, who has built a fmall kind of cloifter, very simple and elegant, before the entrance. The front of the church, though handsome, is made up of too many fmall parts, wanting some great bold portico, or at least columns. In the lower part stand two admirable statues of marble, reprefenting Adam and Eve, by Artaldo di Lorenzi: they are preserved with great care, having lattice-work over them. In the church are fome good statues by Fontana, noticed by Cochin and the Manuel. The altar of the Madonna is adorned with four large filver columns, in a fine tafte, and furrounded with many great filver lamps.

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St. Aleffandro also is very rich, especially the high altar decorated with fine jaspers, and the tabernacle of gilt bronze, very profusely set with precious stones, among which are several fine rubies.

St. Euftorchio is chiefly remarkable for the elegant Gothic shrine of alabaster, containing the body of St. Peter the Dominican martyr, whose death is so finely painted by Titian at Venice. He was inquisitor general of this province under Pope Gregory IX.; but certain heretics, not liking to be roasted in this world as well as the next, returned him good for evil, and sent him to heaven.

St. Lorenzo, in the same quarter of the town, has a well-formed cupola; but the upper part of the four great masses on which it rests, is very singularly pannelled, and projects in a heavy manner. Before this church stands a row of sixteen sine antique sluted columns of the Corinthian order, supporting a cornice, said to have belonged to a temple of Hercules. They are in a good style, but have suffered much. This is the only ruin of any consequence in Milan.

. The monument, mentioned in the Manuel,

with the three Graces, is not antique, but done in the fixteenth century.

At the Madonna delle Grazie, in the refectory, may be feen the celebrated fresco of the Last Supper, by Leonardo da Vinci; a picture admirable for drawing and expression, but the colouring is much hurt. The ftory of this painting having been white-washed by order of a fuperior of the convent, because the face of Judas happened to resemble his, and recovered by accident, is well known. To that misfortune, perhaps, is to be attributed its defective colouring. The figures are fomewhat larger than life. We were too much occupied by the merits of this picture, to find out that St. John is reprefented with fix fingers on one hand, as curious persons remark. In the church is a very capital performance of Titian, Christ crowned with thorns. The heads are very fine. Also a picture of great merit, in many respects, by Gaudentio di Ferrara, painted in 1543, a whole-length of St. Paul the apostle. There is much character in the head, and the feet are admirably finished. The colours

are very brilliant, though hard; and the apostle's red beard reminded me of Butler's description of that of Hudibras:

- " In shape and hue so like a tile,
- "It might a fudden view beguile."

In the old church of St. Ambrogio lies the body of that truly great faint, so celebrated for his courageous repulse of the Emperor Theodofius, and for feveral other heroic actions, as well as for his piety. His remains are under the altar, which is furrounded by four pillars of brecciated red porphyry, fupporting a Gothic canopy. De la Lande tells us the Ambrofian ritual is still retained at Milan, out of respect to their ancient archbishop; and he is at the pains to describe in what respects this service differs from the Roman ritual. These are trisling variations about the manner of celebrating mass, the time when the priest should wash his hands, and when the creed should be faid, &c. about all which a certain canon, whose name I will not preferve though he does, is faid to have projected a very large work.

<sup>&</sup>quot;Strange that fuch difference there should be,

<sup>&</sup>quot;Twixt tweedle dum, and tweedle dee!"

One cannot help smiling at one peculiarity of the Ambrosian ritual. The gospel is read from a losty pulpit, at the lower end of the choir, "that the people," says De la Lande, "may hear it." Why then is it not in the vulgar tongue, that they may understand it?

St. Francis is a large handsome church of modern architecture, in which, however, we noted nothing particular, except a very tolerable picture over an altar on the left hand near the door, the subject of which I forget, and the painter's name could not learn; but it has not been long done, and is, nevertheless, much above the common run of recent productions of the pencil.

St. Victor is a rich church, belonging to a fuperb monastery of Olivetani. Its altar exhibits a profusion of decorations in hard stones; such as jasper, agate, &c. The roof of the building, as well as its pillars, are too gaudily painted. Over the second or third altar on the left, is a very excellent picture of a friar of this order, in their white habit, administering the sacrament to a sick man; with another friar of the same order assistant ing him. The chiar of curo and colouring are very fine. Cochin does not notice this painting,

painting, though he speaks of another which escaped us.

The chapel of the great hospital contains an Annunciation by Guercino, very admirable, though not one of his best works. I cannot admire the attitude of the Angel; the Glory, with God the father, and Cherubs, are excellent.

The capuchins' church, called il Giardino, has a very remarkable roof, of a great width, confisting of ribs of masonry, the rest being of wood.

We thought the theatre of Milan scarcely inferior to that of St. Carlo at Naples. Its decorations were very magnificent. Here, for the first time, we heard the inimitable Marchesi, whose talents and personal merit procure him general respect, even in his own country, and have been honoured as they deserve in ours.

At the zecca or mint we were shewn the whole process of coining, even the manner of milling, which in some places is kept secret, at least from the vulgar; but is too well known to those conversant at all with the subject to need a description here.

The castle of Milan seems very consequential, and is said to be worth seeing; but we omitted to visit it. The public walks are noble. I never saw so many deformed people any where as in this town, especially about the legs. Most of these unfortunate persons are rickety all over; sew have only the hump-back.

The police of Milan is good, and the government just and humane. The archduke, a very amiable and popular prince, lives in habits of great familiarity with his fubjects: his ear is accessible to the meanest, and his hand open to all who are in diffress. Living always among his people, he interests himself, with the most engaging benignity, about innumerable circumstances, such as seldom come to a fovereign's knowledge, and reaps, in person, that genuine reward, so rare to princes' ears, fincere and deferved praife.-Neither does science escape the archduke's attention, for he is curious to inspect every literary publication in his dominions; and the introduction of valuable exotic plants has been one object of his care.

Several Milanese noblemen have a taste

for scientistic pursuits. The merits of the Count Landriani, in chemistry and natural philosophy, are well known. The Castiglioni family possess considerable zeal and knowledge in natural history, one of them, who visited England in 1785, having travelled to America for botanical purposes; and I regretted extremely his absence from Milan during our stay there.

June 15. A voiture conveyed us before dinner to Pavia, twenty miles distant from Milan; the road very level and straight; the country highly cultivated, with many rice fields, and plenty of Lombardy poplars.

Four miles short of Pavia we passed the magnificent Carthusian monastery, now dissolved. It stands about a mile from the road, at the extremity of a fine alley of cypresses. We ought not to have passed it unvisited, but the weather was extremely rainy, and we began to grow indifferent to every thing of this kind that was not of sirst-rate eminence. We were also in immediate pursuit of objects of a different nature.

Pavia is a long fortified town, confisting chiefly of one street, the other parts being much scattered like Padoua. There is a singular bridge over the river Ticino, covered with a tiled roof. The Albergo di Lombardia is an excellent inn. Here we paid eight pauls each, near four shillings, by the day for our dinner and lodging, which is the common rate of the country.

This is at prefent the most celebrated university in Italy, and perhaps better furnished with able professors, men of real genius and activity, than most at present existing in the world. The loss of one bright ornament we have now indeed to regret, the celebrated Scopoli, who was at this time Professor of Botany here; and to him our first visit was paid.

We found him a man verging towards the decline of life, of a plain but animated countenance, not at all refembling his portrait in the Flora Carniolica, and entirely devoid of the stupid gravity so remarkable in that print. He received us very kindly; talked much of his own works, particularly of one in German, on Mining, the manuscript of which

was then before him. He is the editor of an Italian translation of Macquer's Dictionary of Chemistry, with many notes.

Breakfasting with this professor next morning, I took an opportunity of offering him any affiftance the Linnæan Herbarium could afford, by which he first understood it was in my possession, having but slightly read over our French introductory letters. He was quite overjoyed; gave me a most cordial embrace, and from that moment we scarcely separated during my abode at Pavia. He prefented me with his Entomologia Carniolica; with its rare unpublished plates, his Fundamenta Botanica, and Elementi di Chimica. Having had his whole collection of the infects of Carniola engraved as far as No. \$15, Apis terrestris, the rest of the specimens were found fo much damaged, he gave up the work. We faw their remains, entirely crumbled to dust. It is pity the figures, as far as they go, were not published; they would be very useful, his work being one of the few classical ones in Entomology. What is become of the plates I know not.

The botanic garden of Pavia is large, and as well furnished as most out of England. In one part the plants are arranged according to the Linnæan fystem; in another after their natural classes. The professor's house is pleasantly situated in the middle. Here Haller's herbarium is preferved: the plants fixed upon coarse strong paper, put up in large books, and much eaten by infects. We looked over the Orchideæ with care, but got little information. There are great numbers of specimens of each species fent him by different people, with names and fynonyms, some right and some wrong, as usual; but scarcely ever corrected by himself. It would therefore be dangerous to draw any important conclusions from this herbarium, unless it were studied with great care; and then perhaps certain marks might be found to distinguish from the rest his original Swifs specimens. Such marks make the peculiar value of the herbarium of Linnæus; as by them we can detect the original specimens which our great master had before him at the publication of each of his works, VOL. III. F and

and have seldom, therefore, to trust event to his opinion as to the identity of a plant.

One morning at seven o'clock, we attended a botanical lecture of Professor Scopoli's, in a room at the garden. It was in Italian, chiefly on grasses, their nature, arrangement, and uses. He observed that there are really no limits between Bromus and Festuca; but that, nevertheless, Linnæus's arrangement of the genera and species in general, was the best, as well as the first, ever seen. He spoke of corn, beer, &c. in a very general way; for the lectures in this university are unusually short, seldom much exceeding half an hour.

We were no less happy in the acquaintance of Professor' Scarpa, the celebrated teacher of anatomy. With him we surveyed the College, and its collection of anatomical preparations, all of which had been made within three years, and do the Professor great honour. The most striking things appeared to me, first, An uterus, about a fortnight after impregnation, whose inside is extremely villous, and which shews the manner in which

which the ovum attaches itself to that part these villi Mr. Scarpa thinks become the membrana decidua of Dr. Hunter. Second, A testicle very finely injected with mercury, and fo disposed that the internal as well as external tubuli are visible, with the epididymis and vas deferens, more distinct than in any I have feen, and yet very nearly in their proper fituations. Here is also a most curious collection of comparative anatomy, made by the professor of that branch, a pupil of Mr. Scarpa. The nervous system of the black flug Limax ater, the organs of generation of the Gryllus, with feveral other pieces, are extremely masterly and instructive. If this museum goes on as it has begun, it will be the first thing in its way.

The hospital is spacious, airy, and handsome; the patients about 400; the room,
or rather hole, for operations, very bad; but
a new one was about to be built. Among
the patients we saw a woman who had an
immense extravasation of milk in one of
her breasts, which, on an incision being
made, discharged eight pounds of pure milk.
The breast was now fast returning to its

F 2

proper

proper fize, though still full of finuses. Her health was good.

We were fortunate in hearing Mr. Scarpa's concluding lecture for this feason, on the veins of the lower extremities. The anatomical theatre is new and handsome; but too near the street.

We had also an opportunity of seeing the degree of Doctor of Physic conferred at the college upon three young gentlemen, who defended their theses against the objections of the profesfors very decently, and spoke Latin readily enough, if not quite accurately. Profesfor Scarpa, their promoter, afterwards put a gold ring upon the finger of each, waved the hat very gracefully over their heads, and made a fign of embracing them; though not with the close hug of Montpellier. The business concluded with a very good Latin oration from Professor Scarpa, relating to the study and practice of medicine. The room appropriated to this ceremony is new and elegant. The Emperor' Joseph decreed, that no graduate here should be obliged to publish any thing more than four or five detached theses or propositions;

mo differtation, unless he chooses. By which order certainly much loss of time and labour is spared to the poor student, capable of being far better employed in instructing himself, than in attempting to teach others.

The college library is a very good one, open to every body every day, except festivals; the professors alone have the privilege of borrowing books. Here is the greater portion of Haller's library; but I could not find his celebrated copy of Rivinus's plates, containing the Orchideæ, which most copies want. The librarian infifted on its being at Milan, if any where. At Milan we were told it was at Pavia. Here is another copy of the Hist. Stirp. Helvet. with notes; also the Anatomical Tables of the fame author interleaved, with many manuscript notes in his own hand. We were also shewn a small work of Dr. Whytt's, in 8vo, or 12mo, in answer to Haller, on the subject of irritability, from which all the appendix was violently torn out, and the following words, or fomething like them, written in English upon one of the remaining leaves. "The " whole of this appendix was at my re-" quest F 3

" quest omitted in the edition of all the au" thor's works." This note was not Haller's, but in a fair large hand, probably
written by the person who sent him the
book; and it should seem that he tore out
the appendix in indignation, of which he
was very capable.

The Abbé Serafino Volta, keeper of the public museum, very obligingly shewed us that collection, which is magnificently difposed. The serpents are uncommonly numerous and fine, as well as the fish: the minerals good; other departments in general not capital. The cabinet of natural philosophy is furnished with two orreries, by Adams; an air-pump, by Martin; and one on a newer construction, by Nairne; with feveral other capital instruments. The Abbé Alessandro Volta, brother of the abovementioned, is professor of natural philosophy, and one of the most eminent men in that line in Europe. He was at this time from home.

Professor Scopoli introduced us to the celebrated Father Gregorio Fontana, Professor of Mathematics, brother to the Abbé

Fontana

Fontana of Florence. This gentleman rarely quits his chamber on account of nervous diforders; but his conversation is all cheerfulness and intelligence; nor does his knowledge of mathematics, however profound, fo entirely absorb his mind, as to prevent his being extensively conversant with other branches of natural knowledge, and literature in general. Little could I imagine, when I enjoyed the pleasure of his conversation, and admired the acuteness and versatility of his genius, that he should ever condescend, as he has fince done, to become the translator and commentator of any production of mine \*; but his candour is equal to his abilities.

It is needless here to enter into the particulars of the celebrated fracas which happened at Pavia not long since, relative to some articles missing in the public museum. Nothing is more painful than to find ble-misses in a distinguished character; nor should I mention the matter at all, but for

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<sup>\*</sup> Discorso preliminare agli Atti della Società Linneana di Londra, &c. tradotto sedelmente dall' idioma Inglese, con vote. Pavià, 1792, 8vo.

the purpose of justifying the innocent. All the above-mentioned professors were unanimous in their account. The government was also well informed of the truth, and the Emperor Joseph II. took care to have his fentiments known. But, unwilling to lofe a person whose scientific abilities were of importance to the university, the accusers were fomewhat harfhly condemned to filence. Poor Scopoli, one of the most concerned in the business, died of grief the following year; and his only justification was a printed circular letter, fent to the principal literati of Europe, in which the real cause of his death was mentioned, and which authority itself did not suppress. May my honest, though feeble, endeavours \* help to revive his blafted laurels, and protect a name which ought to be dear to every good man, and doubly fo to every naturalist! It is the privilege of an Englishman, thank Heaven! fafely to affert the cause of justice, whether in his own case or in that of another; a

privilege

<sup>\*</sup> See Plant. Icones en Herb. Linn. fasc. 2, t. 34, page 2.

privilege which, under even a mild and beneficent Sovereign, cannot, we find, be always obtained in an unlimited government. May happy Britain long most jealously watch and preferve this inestimable bleffing! May she be cautious too of hazarding it in pursuit of other advantages, however flattering, remembering how much she has to lose, but how little to gain!

We anxiously wished to hear a lecture from the famous professor of natural history, the Abbé Spallanzani, not choosing to be presented to him; and it fortunately fell out that our curiofity was gratified. His countenance is auftere and proud, in form inclining to the African. His delivery fo extremely deliberate, drawling, and monotonous, it could fcarcely be heard with a grave face; but the composition of his lecture so admirable, as to make us forget all the rest. The subject was the different lengths of time which different butterflies remain in the chryfalis, and how far their exit may be haftened by heat; with Reaumur's experiment of putting the infects in that state under a hen, and so producing the first butterflies

4

terflies perhaps, as the professor said, that were ever hatched by a bird. He concluded with some conjectures upon the possibility of laying large animals, as men, in a trance for any length of time; an idea of Mr. Hunter's, which Spallanzani dressed out with all the graces of imagination; and although the greater part of his lecture may be found in the plain unadorned pages of Reaumur, yet he made the whole so much his own by his decorations and masterly arrangement, it would be invidious to deny him his due praise.

The professors live herein a very handsome style, on ample salaries, and those salaries not sinecures, nor the reward of political intrigue. We could gladly have made a long residence in this seat of real science, and left it with much regret. Our last visit was to Professor Scopoli, who enriched me with several plants, gathered by himself the preceding year in the Tyrol, freely offering any botanical communications in his power. With what pleasure did this good man anticipate my promised communication of American and other seeds not known in Italy,

and his pupils crowded around to kifs his hands; but unhappily I had never an opportunity of gratifying him or myfelf in this way.

Walking on the ramparts of Pavia, those celebrated ramparts where every step recalls the history of a Charles and a Francis, we enjoyed in an evening the music of the garrison, with all that was gay and pretty in the town listening to hear it. Nothing could be more delicious than the clearness and temperature of the air, though almost every evening was attended with forked lightning in abundance, without thunder. We found none but common well-known plants about the town.

The opera here is extremely bad, and feems chiefly intended to gratify the students, whose principal pleasure consists in enjoying their privilege of talking louder than the persons on the stage, and laughing, not always unaptly, at any tragical part meant to be particularly fine.

Independently of all the entertainment and friendly attentions we experienced at Pavia,

I left it with peculiar regret, for I here quitted the companion of my tour. Unavoidable engagements called him home, while the well-known attractions of Genoa, and the untried ones of Turin, were, on my part, not to be refifted. Dr. Younge returned to Milan, purfuing his route homeward by Mount Simplen, through Switzerland.

June 19. After dinner, a Milanese count, who was travelling to Genoa in great state, in the coach of a Spanish cardinal, without scruple admitted me and my servant to share his magnificence; and we soon struck a bargain with his driver.

The country is very swampy, being even at this season under water; accordingly agues are very frequent. We crossed in a boat a little branch of the Tessino, landing in the king of Sardinia's dominions, and were then ferried over the Po. Slept at Voghera in a most comfortable inn. Great numbers of luminous insects were slying about in the dusk, emitting light every moment by starts. I slattered myself they had been Fulgora eu-

ropæa, but they proved only the winged males of the Italian glow-worm, Lampyris italica, in which both fexes are luminous.

When we came to pay our bill in the morning, I was furprifed to find no demand made, but the whole left to the discretion of my companion, who paid in all, for himself and for me, much less perhaps than I should have paid alone; as was the case all the way to Genoa. Such is the advantage of travelling under the protection of an inhabitant of the country.

June 20. Passed through Tortone, defended by a considerable fortress, and came to Novi in the Genoese state.

This is a pretty neat little town, fituated among hills. Mr. Collins, an Englishman, who has a fabrick of raw silk, was so obliging as to shew us the worms spinning. The women who superintend them, esteem dark-coloured worms the best to breed from, and take care to save them for that purpose. Most of the country people and servants hereabouts breed silk-worms in their chambers, supplying them with sticks and branches

of trees to spin upon. They occasion a faint unpleasant smell in the apartment, and I should think the more airy stages, constructed on purpose in spacious buildings, must be more healthy for the animals, and better for the silk. The Novi silk is coarse, and generally used unthrown.

A hilly road, through a very picturesque country, brought us to Voltaggio, where is a poor inn, though not the worst in Italy.

ing to cross the samous high mountain called the Bocchetta, by which is the only approach to Genoa by land, except along the coast. The country is extremely romantic; the road steep, and winding very much over the hills. I observed several rare and pretty plants, as Phyteuma spicata, Coronilla varia, Juncus niveus, and Hieracium Auricula. Several numerous parties of mules were upon the road, with small wooden boxes hung across their saddles, chiefly containing, as I was told, the gold coin of Milan, which is exchanged with Genoa to a very great advantage. Indeed so I found it by the little

I had

I had with me; but the Milanese will not let a stranger share any of this profit that they can help. If I remember right, the gain is about nine per cent. in favour of Milan.

At the bottom of the hill, on the other fide, stands Campo Marone, a little scattered romantic village, named from the number of chesnut trees about it. Nothing can be more charming than the rest of the road to Genoa, among hills clothed with wood, cultivated wherever the ground will admit of it, and studded with villas, churches, and cottages.

## CHAP. XXXVII.

## GENOA IN RETURN.

ENOUGH has been already faid of the palaces, churches, and pictures of Genoa in the early part of this work. I have fpoken of its magnificence, let us now take a view of its enjoyments.

Many of the noble Genoese have a fort of hanging gardens upon the bastions of the town, which, although often confined in space, have a peculiarly romantic and singular effect. Bowers of passion flower, treillages of vines, terraces, and grass-plats, decorated with all forts of sweet-smelling slowers, offer themselves unexpectedly one after another without end; and every step, in general, presents a prospect of the bay and surrounding country, equally rich, varied, and extensive. The great advantage of these gardens is their situation within

the walls, which makes them accessible at all times; whereas the town-gates being shut about eight or nine o'clock, to return from a country villa, after those hours, is impracticable, at least without the trouble of an express permission of the council, which could not be obtained by every body every day. To these villettas, as they are called, their owners retire in the cool of the evening, either to solitary study, or to the society of a few most select friends. There no state nor ceremony is allowed to intrude.

From some of these elevated situations the view of the town on the eve of St. John. Baptist, the great sessival of Genoa, was the most singular I ever beheld. The town was brilliantly illuminated; while along the glowing purple coast to the west, the last rays of the setting sun still trembled on the hills, and the moon arose in the east. To these three contrasted lights was added the singular effect of the innumerable slying glow-worms, darting their momentary splendour through all the streets, gardens, and rooms. We used frequently to catch these little insects, and entangle them in the ladies' hair and head-

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drefs; a decoration the women in some countries adopt themselves. A lady of Genoa told me a fingular anecdote of some Moorish women of rank, taken prisoners by the Genoese, and detained for a ransom. They were lodged at a villa out of the town, and vifited, during their stay, by feveral families. A party going to fee them one fummer's evening after a hot day, were furprifed to find all their doors and windows close shut, and themselves in the utmost terror and distress. They had conceived an idea, that these luminous flies were the disturbed souls of their departed relatives. The common people of Genoa too suppose them to be of a spiritual nature, and to come out of the graves—of course they are beheld with abhorrence.

After looking down on the illuminations, we joined the crowd in the streets, which was very numerous, and consisted of perfons of all ranks; the ladies of quality, leaning on their cavalieri serventi, were followed by their chairs, with innumerable sootmen and slambeaux. Every window in the principal streets was lighted up; but I saw no transpa-

transparencies, nor other devices, as in our London illuminations.

The villetta of the Count Durazzo has an advantage, not very enviable in a place of retirement, that of commanding the ground for playing at the Pallone, or great ball, a favourite game here. The players are divided into two parties, and each takes its station at one end of the ground, a line of partition being drawn across the middle. Their right arms are guarded with a large thick bracelet fet with points. With this they strike the ball, which is large, but light; their chief aim being to keep it up as long as they can, and, above all, to prevent its falling in their own ground. The spectators are very numerous, even of persons of fashion, placed in boxes like those of a theatre. They bet very high, and feem much interested in the game.

The chief promenade of the Genoese in an evening, is a square called Piazza d'Aqua Verde. This is planted with a few trees, but for the most part surrounded with dead walls, and void of all beauty; being spacious and airy however, and almost the only slat

G 2

**fpace** 

fpace of any extent within the walls, it is much frequented by all ranks of people.

On the 4th of July I had an opportunity, under the protection of the Durazzo family, of feeing the great council, and the final election of the Doge, the only occasion on which strangers can be admitted at all to that august assembly. The fight of so many hundred persons in an elegant full-dress of black filk, for the French Ambassador only was in regimentals, added to the magnificence of the great hall, with its pillars of brocatello marble, was very firiking. No fwords are allowed to be worn on this occasion. The - tedious mode of electing this phantom of a fovereign, has been often described. The fix were already chosen, and waited in an adjoining room, till one of their number was balloted for by the whole great council in the usual way, and at last Rafaele di Ferrari was declared duly elected. Proper officers then brought the new Doge into the great affembly, where he was invested with the crimfon robe, and took the oaths and his feat on the throne. All the company afterwards passed him one by one, faluting

him with a bow. The mob were then admitted into the lower end of the hall, as far as a barrier placed across the apartment; and their acclamations were as loud as if they had any concern in the matter, or any reason to be glad or forry. We went into the Doge's private apartments, where numbers of ladies were waiting to pay him their compliments. He foon appeared, and feated himself under a canopy in one of the rooms, when all the company went and bowed to . him as before, which compliment he returned. The office of this chief magistrate lasts two years, during which he must not, without permission of the senate, go out of his palace. If, however, he does not retire before the two years are expired, the law fays he may be thrown out of the window. Most Doges choose to anticipate the fatal period a few hours. They are then fenators, with the title of eccelentissimo for life. After this business was over, odes of congratulation were distributed about the town.

The Doge fometimes goes in state to the opera, and makes really a magnificent appearance, sitting in his robes in the central

G 3

pox,

box, and attended by numerous pages in very rich liveries:

The country about Genoa is fo extremely hilly, the only way of travelling into the interior parts is in fedan chairs. I undertook a botanizing excursion of this kind among the mountains, with my friend Dr. Pratolongo jun. and certainly never experienced a more fingular one. We dined the first day at Pino, a romantic country-seat of his excellency the fenator Marcellino Durazzo, owner of the great palace in Strada Balbi. This gentleman received us very kindly, and gave an entertaining narrative of his going to France in the year 1747, to folicit the affistance of Louis XV. against the Germans. All the Genoese coast being occupied by the enemy, he was obliged to return by fea from Marfeilles; and that harbour being blocked up by the English fleet, he escaped in the disguise of a fisherman, with a million of French livres. For this fervice, and his good conduct when Doge, he has had the almost unprecedented honour of a statue in the great Council Chamber, erected in his life-time. At dinner we were

joined by his brother, the abbé, a celebrated preacher, and an ex-jesuit, still wearing the habit; a very pleasant, sensible, and accomplished man.

We dined, al fresco, in a room fitted up like a grotto, adjoining to an apartment furnished with baths; the walls of which are well painted by Domenico Parodi, especially a Diana bathing, of great merit. The Germans having possession of this villa in 1746, so completely reversed the order of things, as to make a fire in this bath, and entirely blackened the picture with smoke; but a sponge and water afterwards perfectly restored it. In retreating they set fire to the house, and its upper part was burnt down.

We proceeded in the evening about two miles farther, through a most picturesque and hilly country, to a country-house of Dr. Pratolongo's, at St. Orsese. By the way found Linum hirsutum, and Hieracium Auricula? I had observed on a sunny bank this morning, not far from Genoa, great plenty of the Catananche cærulea, well known in our gardens, beautifully intermixed with Tragopogon Dalechampii, and here and G4 there

there Centaurea paniculata. That most elegant and remarkable insect Myrmeleon libelluloides was flying about in great numbers, and was easily caught by the hand. The common people call it mazza prete, or the priest-killer, for what reason I could not learn.

The next morning being very hot, we botanized in a wood by the fide of a rivulet running from the mountains, and found Hieracium cymofum very common all about these hills, with Melittis Melissophyllum, Aristolochia rotunda, &c.

In the evening ascended one of the hills, and in a moist pasture I found, for the first time, Serapias Lingua, the only plant of the Orchis tribe, perhaps, whose colour is absolutely unchanged by drying. A rock afforded us some alpine Lichens, and a dry pasture Linum tenuisolium. This is one of the most romantic places I ever saw. The hills are very abrupt, nor is there an inch of level ground. But every spot is turned to account. Little corn-fields, vineyards, pastures, and cottages, sheltered with mantling vines, diversify the scene. The pastures abound with

with the everlasting pea, Lathyrus latifolius, having narrow leaves however, the charmaing Coronilla varia, among several other elegant plants, and of course innumerable insects of great beauty, for where plants abound, insects are sure to come.

On the third day we returned by the Polcevera, or Bocchetta, road to Genoa.

Another delightful expedition was, by the fame extraordinary conveyance, in company with my late friend Mr. Caffarena, the Hessian Conful, to his country-house at La Castagna, four miles from Genoa to the east, in a most sweet situation. A rich country covered with vines and olive-trees, makes the foreground of the landscape; with a lofty and gradually swelling hill decked with villas and churches on the left, and on the right the sea.

Here the Count Doria has some fanciful, but too artificial, gardens; yet even the most fastidious devotee of unfettered nature must surely be struck with astonishment, if not admiration, at the covered walks of orange and lemon trees, whose roofs present one continued glow of golden fruit, while through

through the treillage of their fides every gale wafts fragrance from their bloffoms.

yent of Capuchins, and in returning drank tea in a rocky recess on the sea beach. Here grew myrtles and honeysuckles, with Lotus birsutus and Crithmum maritimum. Upon this and other coasts of the Mediterranean, may be picked up abundance of dense compact balls, formed of the woody sibres of marine plants, knit sirmly together by the action of the waves. If this cause alone is sufficient to produce such bodies, no wonder similar ones are formed of hair and vegetable sibres in the stomachs and intestines of animals, where mucus and various substances assist their cohesion.

My last country excursion was with the Durazzo family. Mr. Jacomo Durazzo, who has for some time past been collecting a library of rare and curious books, particularly the productions of Aldus's press, possesses, at his noble villa of Cornigliano, a very respectable museum of Natural History, of which his younger brother, Mr. Hippolito, has been

been the projector and superintendant.-Four of the most delightful days of my fecond visit to Genoa were spent at this villa, with its amiable owner and his family. Our mornings were employed in the mufeum, which confifts of three spacious apartments, furrounded with glass cases, containing minerals, quadrupeds, birds, fishes, corals, and a fine collection of shells. In the first room are good marble busts of Aristotle, Pliny, Linnæus, and Bergman. The minerals are disposed according to the Sciagraphia of the latter; the rest after the Linnæan system. Dr. Caneferi, Professor of Natural History, was of our party, and every one had their department affigned; fome labouring at the determination of the shells, others at the birds. The jaspers and agates from Sicily in this collection are extremely fine, and are fet in the windowfhutters; a good method enough, as they thus take no room, and their hardness secures them from injury.

We generally had company at dinner, after which, those who chose it amused themselves with billiards, and the evenings

were employed in walks and rides, or vifits' in the neighbourhood. The Duke of Grimaldi, one of the persons I most wished to have feen, was from home. This nobleman, the well-known prime minister of the late king of Spain, would fain have tempted Linnæus to fettle in that country. liberal offers made to that distinguished man, of letters of nobility, the free exercise of his religion, and an ample falary, are fufficiently known; as well as his modest refusal. I am possessed of the original correspondence, which does honour to both parties. On his own refusal, Linnæus was requested to recommend one of his pupils, to examine the natural history of Spain and South America. He fent Loefling, who unfortunately died young. Afterwards wars, the curse of nations, and the invariable ruin of all their best interests, diverted the attention of the Spanish court from this object. They have fince refumed it with fuccess, and much is to be expected from the persons they have encouraged.

On the sea beach, under the garden wall at Cornigliano, grew the rare Echinophora

fpinosa,

fpinosa, and Euphorbia Peplis. I much doubt whether the former has a right to be reckoned an English plant, and whether something else has not been mistaken for it, though it is not easy to guess what. Nobody can now find Echinophora in the place mentioned by Ray.

At a villa of Count Durazzo's not far distant, among several other curious trees and shrubs, I observed Duranta Ellisii, twelve or sourteen seet high, most beautifully covered with slowers, in the natural ground. These slowers much resemble Veronica Chamadrys, so common under all our hedges; and I mean the comparison as a high compliment, for nothing can be more elegant than this Veronica.

Now I am on the subject of Natural History, the following curious insects, found about Genoa, deserve to be mentioned:

Scarabæus

Cornigliano.

Scarabæus fuliginosus; Ejusd. 4. 21. f. D, not common.

Hister quadrimaculatus; of this rare insect I picked up one speci-

men in Italy, but am not quite fure whether at Genoa, or

farther fouth.

Lampyris Italica;

very common, even in all the streets and houses in an evening. If trodden upon, and the foot is drawn along the ground, a luminous line remains for some minutes.

I found a few wingless female glow worms, distinct from the above, and which agree exactly with the common Lampyris no Etiluca, except in being twice as large as our Eng-

Meloc cichorii

in proportion.

ing chiefly in the variations of black and yellow in the elytra, are to be found in the heat of the day feeding upon Scolymus maculatus, in waste ground about the light-house and other places.

Cicada plebeja;

very common on all the trees, making a most disagreeable shrill chirping. Ray has long ago shewn the error of translators, who call this, which is the Cicada of Virgil, a grass-hopper; but the latter insect, nevertheless, still retains its usfurped privilege

se to point a moral, or adorn a tale."

Gimex lineatus:

very common, as well as at Pavia and Montpellier.

Papilio Podalirius; -- Antiope;

extremely plentiful. ditto.

—— Circe, Fabr. Sp. one caught in a garden at La Caf-tagna.

Sphinx Phegea; near the fea. Phalæna Hera; in a wood at Cornigliano.

Myrmeleon libelluloides; common, as before mentioned.

Of collections of Natural History in Genoa itself, little can be said. That at the palace of the University I have already mentioned, vol. i. 257. Science, or rather patronage, is here in its dawn.

"Sint Mecænates, non deerunt, Flacce, Marones."

A fmall and poor botanic garden is an appendage to the college.

Dr. Roffini has a felect collection of minerals, in which the finest things are, a mocoa stone of uncommon beauty; a good oculus mundi, and an extremely fine flice, about

about fix inches broad, apparently a kind of unformed mass of emeralds, perhaps what the Italians properly mean by plasma di smeraldo; but I had no opportunity of examining the specimen minutely. It seemed, however, very distinct from green jasper or agate, and more transparent. See Father Petrini's Gabinetto Mineralogico, published at Rome, 1791 and 1792, vol. i. p. 258.

At a convent of Capuchins, out of St. Catharine's gate, is preferved an Herbarium, made by Boccone, confisting of two volumes of Corfican plants, one of Ligurian, and one miscellaneous. I looked the whole through, but observed few rare plants, and no nondescripts. Gnaphalium supinum Linn. is called Gnaphalium alpinum nanum.

The druggists' shops afford some curious articles of Materia Medica. Fungus Melitensis (Cynomorium coccineum Linn.) may be had in any quantity very cheap, though Mr. Collé, of Marseilles, shewed me a miserable specimen as a great treasure. Vanilla (Epidendrum Vanilla) is sold very good at two shillings, English, the ounce; an inferior sort at one shilling.

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The Genoese sea is reputed to be destitute of fish; there appeared, nevertheless, plenty of the best kinds in the market, as John Dory's, Pipers, Cuttlessish, &c. Raja Torpedo is often eaten here. At the Marquis Durazzo's table, on meagre days, we had fish in such profusion and variety as I never before witnessed. I was politely offered meat on those days, but discretion, as well as inclination, made me decline it; for the most unreasonable epicure might be satisfied with a meagre dinner at Genoa, and, unless told, would never suspect half their dishes were not animal food; nor that any of them were intended to mortify the sless.

Fruit is plentiful enough in the markets, and very fine, particularly figs of various kinds, peaches, and in the winter time point-granates, and feveral most excellent forts of apples, one of which, called filo di cassa, has a flavour not unlike that of a pine-apple, and is in many parts semitransparent. Dates from the Levant are in much greater perfection than with us, and the roots of Cyperus esculentus are not unfrequent. The latter taste like very sweet silberds, but are full of

woody

woody fibres. The common people eat much of a bread made of chefnuts, far from pleafant, and a fort of pudding of Chick peas, Cicer arietinum.

One of the most fingular things about Genoa, is its public baking-office, under the direction of a particular magistrate, where alone bread can lawfully be made for fale; yet much is made and fold in a contraband way in various parts of the town, as well as a great deal in private families for their own use. Happily for me this office was one of the last things I saw at Genoa, for I could with difficulty bear the fight of bread during the rest of my stay: A scene of more disgusting filthiness can scarcely be conceived. The workmen, who labour all night, and rest in the day, on account of the heat, are naked, except a fmall cloth for decency, and a pair of flippers; but they actually knead the dough with their naked feet. Every part of the process is in harmony with this elegant practice. There were five or fix ovens then in use; but I expected to see a much more vast undertaking, considering the populousness of the town. When will go-T-I ?

vernments

vernments learn the pernicious consequences of such exclusive privileges?

Artificial flowers are very well made here, and writing-paper is excellent. I am told all the paper used for playing-cards in England comes from Genoa.

I do not think the character of the Genoele in general is well understood, at least of the higher ranks. There may, indeed, be many ignorant, triffing, and proportionably proud people among the nobility, and what country is entirely without fuch? But there are feveral quite the reverse, to whom their rank is not an opprobrium but an honour. As to fociety, the line is indeed very diftinctly drawn between nobles and plebcians; but this feems to be more felt by those immediately below the high ranks, than by the bulk of the people. The latter are eafy and free in their manners, without fervility, and with much republican spirit. A noble Genoese always behaves to them with extreme affability. The people have more than once been formidable to their rulers; and when the King of Naples visited Genoa a few years ago, they shewed so great a partiality

to him, that, to avoid honours and troubles for which he had no inclination, his Majesty is said to have made a precipitate retreat.

The public manners are very decent, and the police pretty good. The strange custom of Cicesbeos, or Cavalieri serventi, exists here in full force; but the real nature of this cuftom, with all its remote consequences, is too intricate a labyrinth for a stranger to develop. No doubt it may be a great source of immorality; but it is not necessarily fo and it is often as burthensome to one of the parties as the heaviest matrimonial yoke can be. I have known young men of the highest fashion who had the courage to refuse their wives this facrifice to custom, and the manliness to scorn the office of cicesbeo themfelves; but few can long refift the torrent of opinion.

The Genoese are extremely attentive to their religion, constant at mass, and engaged in many fraternities of penitents, for the purpose of visiting the sick and burying the dead. I never liad much conversation on this subject with my particular friends, though I have occasionally been asked questions about

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our English church by other persons. As my only aim in any religious conversation is always to promote charity, and foften antipathies, I conducted myself accordingly on these occasions. Those with whom I conversed infifted upon the necessity of confession. I told them our church provided that consolation for those who required it, and that every fect allowed of spiritual confultation with ministers of the gospel. This however was not thought fatisfactory; for Catholics consider confession as an indispensable duty. I ventured to hint the mischiefs that might arise from corrupt confessors, &c. They would not allow that any could arise, for that scarcely any confessor had ever attempted to violate his oath of fecrecy; and fome who had made this impious attempt had been miraculously struck dumb! What appears most absurd to Papists, is our King being the head of the church; but they forget no absurdity can exist, unless we have fome fixed point of reason to argue from, which all must allow to be totally wanting here; nor do Englishmen understand any thing elfe by the King being the head of their church,

church, than that the Pope is not fo. I allowed my Genoese friends therefore to make themselves as merry with this idea as they pleased. I really believe they felt nothing towards me but charitable pity; and when I represented to them the more valuable parts of protestantism, they seemed to consider me as almost a Christian; saying probably within themselves, "Would to God thou wert not only almost, but altogether such!"

It is remarkable that the Genoese consider the English much in the same light as we do them; a reserved proud people, associating together rather than with strangers. They are much pleased when an Englishman will enter into their societies, adopt their manners, language, and fashions, or admire the curiosities of their town. Our manufactures are in high request among them, though they commonly follow the French in dress. Notwithstanding it is so very usual to walk in the streets, men seldom use any other than a chapeau de bras, for it would be indecorous to go into company with the hair disordered by a hat.

H 4.

CHAP.

## CHAP. XXXVIII.

FROM GENOA TO TURIN.

July 30. I TOOK leave of Genoa with feelings that would have been much more insupportable than they were, if I had been firmly persuaded I could never see it again; and while the sluggish mules slowly crawled up the Bocchetta, I scarcely wished to hasten their pace. At length we baited at Voltagio, and slept at Novi.

July 31. After some time we left the Milan road, and passed through Alessandria, a very uncomfortable looking town, which had a warlike birth, having been built by the followers of Pope Alexander III. when he went against the Emperor Frederick Barbarossa, and it has ever since been perpetually bandied about from one potentate to another.

As to magnificence, the town has made but small progress since it was nick-named Alessandria di paglia, or of straw, being now chiefly of ordinary dirty brick. Its chief trade is, I believe, in raw silk.

We dined at a poor place named Felizano, and flept in an old dirty inn at Asti.

Aug. 1. After a fatiguing ride in the morning, the day proved fo extremely hot, that we were glad to repose a little at Poirino. Not that I had the boldness to trust myself upon any fuch animated dunghills as the beds feemed to be; but by placing an old high-backed chair floping against the wall, as far from the bed as possible, I could in fome fort bid defiance to the numerous fquadrons, black, white and brown, that were advancing from all quarters, and which, having no way to get at me but by the two hind legs of the chair that touched the ground, could not come in any very great numbers at once. It is literally true, that at this scason the interstices of the brick floors in inns throughout Italy swarm with fleas. Even at Genoa, though the apartments I occupied were kept tolerably clean, it was impossible to stand a minute in any of the more frequented parts of the hotel, without having one's stockings covered in a manner with these troublesome insects.

In the evening we arrived at Turin, through a very rich and beautiful country, exhibiting great variety of cultivation, and interspersed with verdant meadows bordered with white mulberry trees.

Most of the public buildings and pictures of Turin are so amply described in every book, travellers generally beginning their speculations on Italy with this town, that I may be excused for mentioning them in a cursory manner only, in order to pass on to less trite subjects.

The Royal Palace, built and fitted up before the time of Victor Amadeus, the first King of Sardinia, is richly, and indeed rather gaudily, furnished. Among its pictures, the Dropfical Woman, by Gerard Dow, is not celebrated above its merits. The Prodigal Son, by Guercino, is very excellent; but there there is ceremony rather than unaffected contrition expressed in the unwillingness of the son to enter his father's house. Besides the pictures recorded in the Manuel, I observed the Queen of Sheba before Solomon, a capital performance of Paul Veronese, and another work of the same painter, the subject of which I forget. Prince Thomas of Savoy, by Vandyke, is worthy of all praise.

The Cathedral would fearcely be visited by strangers, but for the celebrated chapel behind the high altar, where the sacred winding-sheet of Christ is said to be preferved. This chapel is of black marble, of a circular form, and not very spacious; its dome very singularly ugly and whimsical, of little segments of arches piled one upon another, with windows in the interstices. The like is no where else to be seen, which those who have not seen this need not much regret.

La Superga is really a noble church in one of the finest elevated situations in Europe, sive miles from Turin. Here is a kind of college for the education of ecclesiastics, who are called canons, and reside

here till they are promoted farther. The church is circular, in a great style of architecture, and adorned with handsome marbles. of the country. Its best picture is St. Charles Borromeo administering the facrament to people dying of the plague; a performance of great merit which I do not find noticed; nor do I know the painter. There are two large alto-relievos, in the style of those of Algardi, which are tolerable, and a third (the Nativity) much inferior to the other two. The fubterraneous chapel, containing the tombs of the royal family, is oblong, with a transverse aisle at the extremity, and richly adorned with Piedmontese marbles. At the extremity of the transept on the left stands the mausoleum of Victor Amadeus the founder. In the inscription he is styled gloriosissimus, which I pointed out to the canons, our guides, as an expression of doubtful purity when used in a complimentary fense, recollecting the remark of Dr. Johnfon in his Life of Milton, p. 160, note. Our intelligent conductors, however, affured me this infcription was closely imitated from one on Trajan, to be found in Grævius

and

and Gronovius, which, nevertheless, I have fought for in vain. If it be fo, our professed critic has rather shewn his enmity to Milton, than his accuracy, in the note above referred to; for although the age of Trajan may not be of supreme authority in such a cale, the rest of this inscription is elegant and faultless; and notwithstanding Latin adjectives in ofus, expressive of qualities of the mind, are generally used in an unfavourable fense, as religiosus a formalist, gloriosus a boaster, yet I believe no example can be found of their being fo employed in the superlative degree. Johnson seems not to have been aware of this distinction. I do not presume to insist upon it, but rather wish for an elucidation of the matter from those more in the habit of verbal criticism, a subject on which I have now perhaps detained the reader too long.

Opposite to the above-mentioned monument is the more sumptuous one of the late King Charles, very well executed by an artist of Turin. This prince's body rests at present in a tomb before the altar of the chapel, where it will remain till the present king dies and takes its place. Thus the ashes of the last departed sovereign continue to receive a mark of distinction above those of his ancestors. The same ceremony used to be observed towards the kings of France at St. Denis. So sweet are power and preeminence to human nature, that it clings even to their shadow! King Charles, who contrived this empty posthumous distinction for his illustrious father, Victor Amadeus, thought perhaps by that means to make some compensation for having withheld from him the reality at the close of life; for silial piety can easily be very dutiful to the dead.

The wife of Victor Amadeus, and the three wives of Charles, lie in niches near their hufbands, each of which is closed with a black marble farcophagus, bearing an infeription in handsome gold letters. There are feveral vacant niches. The late queen lies in one near the door, with a rich monument, in which is a place open for the king. Opposite are niches for the prince and princes of Piedmont.

In the facrifty of this church we faw a filver chalice of highly laboured workmanship. The library is not large, but contains feveral huge works, fit only for public libraries.

From the top of the dome the view on all fides is amazingly extensive and very beautiful. In a clear day Milan may be feen from hence.

Of the king's hunting feats I visited only the Veneria reale. The palace is handsome; the park large, disposed in cut walks and avenues, but not unpleasant, being shady and on a large scale. In the apartments are some indifferent pictures; among others, all the kings of France in one room, and all those of Engkand in another adjoining. The latter are very bad, and for the most part void of resemblance. For instance, Edward IV. is represented as an old grey-headed man, and Edward V. a man about forty years old!

With respect to literary and accomplished characters, I cannot but esteem myself peculiarly fortunate in my acquaintances at Turin.

Professor Allioni, the father of Natural History here, is still ardent in its pursuit, though much engaged in the practice of physic, and not blessed with a strong consti-

tution. The most dreadful misfortune to a naturalist, a weak fight, has hitherto prevented his publishing an Entomologia Pedemontana, for which he has collected ample materials. His collection of Piedmontese infects amounts to about four thousand. Yet even the misfortune of this venerable professor has turned to his advantage in procuring him an honour of which, I will venture to fay, he never dreamed, that of being celebrated for fentiment by a fair English traveller\*, whose magic pen has transformed the rheum of infirmity into crystal drops of fentimental piety, and who, while she performed the part of a "recording angel," perhaps dropped a tear herfelf upon the pathetic story of "poor dear Doctor Allioni" -not that there is a word in it which ought to have been "blotted out" as dishonourable either to herself or to him. Her tearful tribute is but a return for his pretty tale of the crystallized spotted trout.

I was happy to find this diffinguished character, three years after Mrs. Piozzi faw

<sup>\*</sup> Mrs. Piozzi, vol. i. p. 49.

him, still in the perfect enjoyment of his abilities, and employing them in the service of science and mankind; and I hope they will yet be so employed. The loss of his friendly correspondence and communications I should very much regret.

Among the fossils of Professor Allioni are some very curious petrified woods, one of which is penetrated with siliceous matter, bitumen and selenite. Another piece of wood, very little changed, has its cavities occupied by selenitic crystals.

The Arfenal, which I visited because it is a celebrated thing, and because all Englishmen are allowed to see it, was most interesting to me on account of its sine collection of minerals of the country. The gold ores are rich; the petrissed woods good. Among the latter is an inestimable specimen of wood that had been perforated by the caterpillar of Phalæna Cossus, which had changed to its chrysalis there, and the impression of the chrysalis is very perfect. The cavity in which it lay is now lined with little crystals, and the various perforations, made by the animal in its progress, filled up with siliceous

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matter, with which also the substance of the wood is entirely penetrated, though its grain is very distinct. Here is a chemical laboratory, where specimens of the native ores are examined to see if their mines be worth working.

The Cabinet of Natural History at Turin is in its infancy, but promifes well under the auspices of the very able Professor Dana, to whose care it is entrusted. This gentleman accompanied me to the Botanic Garden, at the Royal Palace called Valentino, situated at the extremity of one of those fine avenues which serve the town for a corfo, and are much frequented by all forts of company in an evening. This garden is not remarkably rich in exotics, but is well and accurately kept. The semale Datisca cannabina forms seeds, which, for want of the secundating pollen, never vegetate.

Count Canal has a little botanic garden about two miles out of the town, where I was shewn Plumieria rubra slowering, and P. alba; Nyssa aquatica, a fine shrub, in a pot overslowed with water; and many of the shrubs most rare in our gardens.

In the garden of Dr. Bellardi, a most excellent botanist, I saw Mimosa' Julibrissin (Hort. Kew.) as large as a common appletree, in the open ground, and covered with its elegant flowers like purple and white silk tassels. This tree surely might bear our winters, which are often inilder than those of Turin. Dr. Bellardi has much enriched the Flora Pedemontana of his master Allioni, and has lately published an Appendix to it.

Medicine and Surgery appear to be on a most respectable sooting at Turin. Dr. Cigna, Professor of Anatomy, seemed perfectly well informed about our anatomical and chemical authors, with all the most recent discoveries and observations in those sciences. Mr. Penchienati, Professor of Surgery, has distinguished himself by several papers in the Memoirs of the Turin Academy, and is a man of much ability and acuteness. I had letters also to a celebrated surgeon named Malacarna, whose unaffected plainness and native genius were very strongly marked in the little conversation I had with him.

The Count St. Martin de la Motte, Secretary to the Academy of Painting and Sculp-

ture, very obligingly accompanied me through that school of the arts, which is properly stored with every thing necessary for the use of students. Here tapestry is made on the fame plan as at the Gobelins, and in great perfection. At the University is a museum, not very rich, of Egyptian and Roman antiquities, which boafts however one unique curiofity, the celebrated table of Isis, once in the possession of Cardinal Bembo, of which Montfaucon and others have laboured for much to explain the numerous and complex hieroglyphics. This table is about five feet by three and a half; of copper inlaid with filver. If any antiquarian wants amusement, he may probably find it here without fear of exhausting the subject. The cabinet of medals is rich and well arranged; the medals remarkable in general for good prefervation. Here is also a large library, in which I noticed a fine Manuscript of Pliny's Natural History, and a large collection of drawings of plants that have flowered in the royal garden, on the plan of those at Paris, and very well executed. These drawings are always

always quoted by Professor Allioni in his Flora Pedemontana.

The art of engraving dies for medals is in great perfection at Turin. An artist in this line has executed a series of the Princes of the house of Savoy, which does him great credit indeed.

The only entomologist I met with at Turin, besides Professor Allioni, was Mr. Giorna, to whose liberal communications my collection is much obliged, and who has all the candour and modesty of real merit. From him I obtained plenty of Papilio Latonia and Rumina, among other rarities.

The Mœcenas of Botany, and indeed of general science, at this period, was the Chevalier de Sousa Coutinho, the Portuguese Ambassador. At his table was a weekly assembly of literary men, in whose conversation and pursuits he bore a very intelligent part, always making himself completely one of the company by his knowledge and enthusiasm, no less than by his winning assability. In his library I observed most of our best and more liberal English writers. At

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my first visit I had the unexpected pleasure of meeting the Abbe Correa, who had left Rome fome time after me, and was now on his way to Lisbon, where he has ever fince been labouring, not unfuccessfully, to fow the feeds of science and literature. I heartily hope he will live to reap the fruits of his benevolent aims. Mr. de Soufa has now left Turin for Vienna, which my friend Bellardi justly laments\*. Among the Corps Diplomatique, to many of whom Mr. de Sousa was fo good as to prefent me, the French Ambaffador, Mr. de Choifeul, feemed the most accomplished. He was the only one of the family of the famous Duc de Choiseul who was not involved in that minister's difgrace, and had now been twenty years refident in this court. Whether the Turin nobility are much devoted to the cultivation of the mind I am not informed. I found a very favourable specimen of them in the young Baron de la Turbie, who had just accomplished a journey to Egypt, and other parts of the Levant, in pursuit of knowledge,

<sup>\*</sup> Appendix ad Flo. Pedemont. p. 12.

and then meditated an expedition to India, about which we formed together many airbuilt schemes. But having since married the prime-minister's daughter, he is now more likely to be distinguished in the diplomatic line.

A great trade is carried on at Turin in raw filk, much of which comes to England. The Piedmontese filk being very strong, even and regular in fize, and free from roughnesses and inequalities, is peculiarly ufeful in some of our finer manufactures in which that article is combined with worsted. Manufactured by itself in stockings, &c. it is also very durable, though less brilliant than that of some other countries. The worms are, kept here, as in most parts of Italy, by poor people, who bring to market their little harvest of cocons, which are bought up in large quantities by persons whose business it is to have the filk wound from them. This is performed by women and children in large airy apartments. The cocons are put into hot water with a little gum, refembling gum arabic (as I was told), and which I prefume is gum senegal, or perhaps plum-tree gum.

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Five or fix of the threads fpun by the worm are reeled off together, adhering so as to make one; and two of these compound threads, kept separate, are wound at once. The refuse of the *cocons* is carded and spun.

The operation of throwing the filk, that is, twisting two of the above threads into one, is done by mills in the country, like those at Derby, Sheffield, and other parts of England, the plan of whose construction was brought from Italy by the famous Sir Thomas Lombe, and which need not be defcribed here.

In the town of Turin is an office, under government authority, in which the filk is dried, or conditioned as it is termed, previous to its being packed and weighed, in order that it may neither fuffer damage from damp, nor the buyer be imposed on with respect to weight by that means, as this substance is capable of imbibing much moisture from the atmosphere. Here the silk is hung up, in bunches of about a pound each, on frames all round the room, the windows at this season being open, and the several rooms all exposed to the sun, so that I observed

Reaumur's thermometer stood at 25 (that is, 88 of Fahrenheit) at seven in the evening. In winter each room is kept heated, by a stove in the centre, to 18 or 20 of the same thermometer. The silk is obliged to remain in this situation 24 hours; after which it is taken home to the merchant's house, and immediately packed in pitched cloths for exportation.

The exportation of raw filk is chiefly in the hands of Protestant merchants, either Swiss or Vaudois, the government having learned, for its own interest, rather than from motives of humanity or christian charity, to allow them to live at peace, though not publicly to profess their religion. That privilege these poor people are only allowed in their own country, after every infernal means has been used in vain to deprive them of it. There they have churches, in which they boaft that christianity, pure and undefiled from its first promulgation, has been taught and practifed. There they bury their dead, and frequently go to worship; and as the insolent sufferance they receive in the capital

<sup>&</sup>quot;But binds them to their native mountains more,"

they all look to a peaceful retirement in the bosom of their country, as the great object of their wishes for declining life.

In treating of these subjects one is almost out of patience with human nature. Our indignation at the execrable malevolence of fuch governments, is overcome by our contempt for their folly. How many more hundreds of years will they reckon by the name of the merciful Lord of all mankind, before they learn that the methods they take to root out truth (for I have not the charity to believe they always think they are oppofing error) are the very means of giving it ftrength? An honest desire to be right, too apt to decay in the lap of ease and prosperity, thrives with most vigour in adversity. Or even if, according to the vulgar opinion, there be merit in mere belief, it must be greatest when that belief is attended with danger: there can be little value in the most perfect orthodoxy, embraced for the fake of ease or emolument. Perhaps therefore authority would most effectually, though indirectly, promote purity of doctrine, together with honesty of principle, by felecting abfurdity

for its patronage; and indeed one is sometimes tempted to think this is really its plan. However that may be, it is certain that the exercise of undue authority over the mind ever counteracts its own intentions. I believe our established church of England is more pure and correct than others, very much in proportion as it is more free from a persecuting or dogmatical spirit; for it is a trite observation, that positiveness and want of temper are signs of weakness of argument and error of judgment.

My departure from Turin was hastened by a very tempting invitation from Mr. de Sousa to join a party of naturalists, who proposed to spend a few days on Mount Cenis. This was not to be resused; and indeed the insufferable heat of Turin, where Reaumur's thermometer stood, on the 4th of August, at twenty-six and a half or twenty-seven (92 of Fahrenheit), made me long to climb the snowy summits of the Alps, which tower above the plains of Piedmont, bounding them on the north like a vast wall. Their neighbourhood is the cause of the severe cold often felt at Turin in winter,

where ice two or three inches thick is formed on the meadows overflowed for that purpose. This ice, stored in reservoirs, proves a most comfortable resource in the heats of summer, and seems one of the necessaries of life. Just about dinner-time every body's servants are seen carrying dishes of solid ice from the public offices where it is sold; and it is enough pure and clean to be mixed in substance with every thing that is drunk. It was now almost impossible to walk out in the day time; and even after dark those sides of the streets where the sun had shone felt like an oven.

Persons of any sort of sigure seemed to me to use their legs very little here at any time. A carriage is esteemed quite necessary to a gentleman; and when I wished now and then to make a friendly visit without ceremony, I was told it would ruin my reputation for ever to go on foot, or at best could only be excused on the score of my being a stranger! Nor are the Turin people less ceremonious in dress. A visit to a superior cannot possibly be paid without a sword and chapeau de bras!

French is very generally spoken here. The Piedmontese is so wretched a jargon as to be quite unintelligible to strangers; but there are very sew of the town's people who cannot speak either French or Italian so as to be understood.

In the markets of Turin I bought the berries of Cornus mascula, the Cornelian cherry, which are pleasantly acid, and in a scarcity of grapes are used in the country to make wine of.

## CHAP. XXXIX.

FROM TURIN TO MOUNT CENIS—
SAVOY—GENEVA.

Aug. 11. A BOUT eleven at night I set out from Turin along with Mr. de Sousa, Dr. Bellardi, Dr. Buonvicino a mineralogist, and the Abbé Vasco a natural philosopher.

Aug. 12. Early in the morning we found ourselves among the narrow passes about the foot of the Alps, with majestic scenery intermixed with cultivation, and here and there a not very flourishing village. Passed through Suze, the key of Piedmont, which of course is very strongly fortified; its bassions are cut out of the live rock. The country grew more hilly and romantic at every step. At the miserable village of la Novalaise we were obliged to quit our carriages for mules; and after a tedious ascent by a zigzag stony road,

no way dangerous however, we reached the top, that is, the plain of Mount Cenis, towards noon.

Within about a mile of the fummit I found Juncus filiformis in a wet place on the left of the road, and Lichen polyrhizos on a rock near it. Not far from hence, on a fmall plain before we arrived at the great one, grew Bartsia alpina in seed, Trifolium agrarium of Linn. (Dickfon's Dried Plants, No. 80), widely different from that of English writers, and many other rare plants. On our right a magnificent cascade fell close to the road. All along a great part of the way I had obferved various alpine species of Anemone and Pedicularis, mostly in feed, with a novelty of appearance in the herbage highly encouraging, and a luxuriance at which (having no idea of alpine pastures) I was surprised. I lamented only the advanced state of these plants, and feared we were too late for the feason; but when I found the plain of Mount Cenis all flowery with the rarest alpine productions, fuch as we delight to fee even dragging on a miserable existence in our gardens, and the greatest part of which, difdainful

disdainful of our care and favour, scorn to breathe any other air than that of their native rocks, none but an admirer of nature can enter into my feelings. Even the most common grafs here was Phleum alpinum, and the heathy plain glowed with Rhododendrum ferrugineum and Arnica montana. Well might Clusius fo beautifully fay-" Non carent altissimi montes præruptique scopuli suis etiam deliciis \*;" nor need one have the science of a Clusius to feel pleasure in such fcenes. Scarcely any traveller paffes the Alps in fummer without either lamenting the "neglect of his botanical fludies," or more honeftly regretting that he had never attended to this fource of pleasure at all. I have long ago perhaps tired the reader with my admiration of the works of art. If he has had indulgence enough for me to get thus far, he must now lay in a fresh stock of patience while I expatiate on the productions of nature; unless he should chance to be a botanist, and then all I can fay will not fatisfy his curiofity.

<sup>\* &</sup>quot;The most losty mountains and most rugged precipices are not without their own peculiar charms." (Clus. Panon. 316)...

Dr. Bellardi and myself were accommodated at the Hospital, built for the reception of travellers in bad weather, which is now under the direction of an abbé named Tua; the good father Nicholas, fo much celebrated by Lady Miller, being dead long fince. This is a good ruftic fort of inn; so far from being intolerable, that the English Ambassador, Mr. Trevor, and his Lady, had lately refided fome weeks here on a party of pleasure. Mr. de Sousa and the rest of our company took refuge in a tent not far distant, belonging to the Chevalier de St. Real, then Intendant of the province of Maurienne, and now of the valley d'Aost, who with an ingenious young officer of Chambery, Mr. Martinel, had fpent feveral weeks here, and as many in the preceding fummer, in order to investigate thoroughly the geography and natural hiftory of the environs. In fociety like this, no less pleasant than instructive, and amid fuch scenery, the time passed but too quickly; and I could not but regret the impossibility of my spending the three following summers here with the worthy Intendant, who had allotted five years in all for the accom-VOL. III. K plishment

plishment of his undertaking. His observations must be inestimable; but it was thought the whole would hardly be given to the public, as the Sardinian court very justly object to making their French neighbours too well acquainted with all the secrets of their natural bulwark.

This hospital stands by the high-road side. half way over the plain, which is at least two miles in length; and about the middle, which is its broadest part, it may be a mile across. It is entered at each extremity by a narrow pass, and furrounded on both sides with very lofty mountains capped with eternal fnow. The plain itself is full of inequalities. Towards the northern extremity are two or three beautiful lakes, with an island in the principal one clothed with shrubs and rich pasturage. This lake empties itself to the fouth by a fmall river, whose rocky channel often forms confiderable cascades of great beauty, and is overhung with luxuriant herbage, and shrubberies of Rosa alpina, Mespilus (or rather Cratægus) Chamæmefpilus, &c. &c. This part of Mount Cenis is feldom visited by travellers; but, being within a moderate walk.

walk from the post-house or the hospital, richly deserves attention. On the other side of the rivulet, about the bottom of the hills, are some alders, which, being sheltered by the craggy rocks, attain a confiderable height; otherwise no tree in general, not even the fir, grows to any fize fo high on the Alps. A little farther up are most delicious pastures, intersected with alder thickets, and bordered with Cacalia alpina, Aquilegia alpina, Ranunculus aconitifolius, Sifymbrium tanacetifolium, Pyrola minor, Juncus Spicatus, and other rarities. This beautiful Aquilegia, which far exceeds our garden kind, was very sparingly in flower, and I am obliged for its detection to my faithful attendant Francis Borone, who here imbibed that tafte for botany which afterwards led him to Sierra Leone; and by whose acuteness and activity I have often profited.

Some little hillocks on the left of the front of the hospital are covered with Rhododendrum ferrugineum, among which grew Pyrola rotundifolia, and in the clefts of rocks the very rare Saponaria lutea (Smith Spicileg. bot. t. 5). Here I first found Lichen cucullatus, Trans.

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of Linn. Soc. vol. i. 84, t. 4, f. 7, which I am aftonished any body can confound with L. nivalis: the latter too grows here, as does L. ochroleucus, Dickson fasc. crypt. iii. 19. Descending towards the river I came to a most delightful little valley, like the vale of Tempe in miniature, with a meandering rivulet, scarcely three or four feet broad, running through it, and bordered with abrupt precipices not much more in height, in which were feveral fairy caves and grottos, their entrances clothed with a tapestry of mantling bushes of Salix reticulata and retufa. These dwarf willows grow close pressed to the rocks, whether horizontal or perpendicular, almost like ivy, and may be stripped off in large woody portions. By the rivulet, which issued in several streams from these caves. was a profusion of Anthericum calyculatum and Leontodon aureum, with many other things equally uncommon, and in full bloom.

Aug. 14. We all fallied forth on foot about five in the morning to ascend little Mount Cenis, one of the most considerable hills that front the hospital on the other

fide of the lake. Purfuing a winding path through the thickets, we came to a few cottages, in furely one of the most retired habitable fpots in Europe, and which probably are feldom four months in the year uncovered with fnow. Yet at this feafon who would not have envied their fituation? No lowland scenes can give an idea of the rich entangled foliage, the truly enamelled turf of the Alps. Here we were charmed with the purple glow of Scutellaria alpina; there the grafs was fludded with the vivid blue of innumerable Gentians, mixed with glowing Crowfoots, and the less oftentatious Astrantia major and Saxifraga rotundifolia, whose bloffoms require a microscope to discover all their beauties; while the alpine rose, Rosa alpina, bloomed on the bushes, and, as a choice gratification for the more curious botanist, under its shadow by the pebbly margin of the lake, Carex filiformis prefented itself. The riches of nature, both as to colour and form, which expand fo luxuriantly in tropical climates, feem here not diminished but condenfed. The farther we ascended, the more every production lessened. By the K 3 fandy

fandy bed of a torrent, which runs from the glaciers above, the very elegant Saxifraga casia seemed to emulate the glistening of the hoar frost about it.

At length about eleven o'clock we reached a fmall plain full two-thirds of the way to the top. Here we divided. Some of our party were adventurous enough to climb the very fummit; but being already got to the utmost limits of vegetation, and near those of perpetual fnow, I had no business higher. Indeed this plain appeared to be clothed with a short barren turf that promised little; nor was it till I examined it on my hands and knees, that I discovered this turf to be a rich affemblage of Cherleria sedoides, Alchemilla pentaphyllea, Chryfanthemum atratum, Gentiana nivalis, and other diminutive inhabitants of the highest Alps, among which one of the most beautiful is a dwarf variety of the common Eye-bright, Euphrasia officinalis, with large purple flowers.

This plain was occasionally sunk, on the margin of the declivity, into little hollows, watered by very small trickling rills, and there vegetation appeared extremely luxuriant. Bartsia alpina was here but in flower, along with Satyrium nigrum; the latter simelling like Vanilla. I observed a pair of Papilio Apollos in this exalted region, fluttering about and celebrating their innocent nuptials.

After enjoying from hence the view of the plain of Mount Cenis, with the lake and woods about it, we descended on the side fronting the hospital, and arrived there by six o'clock, not a little fatigued, having been all day on our legs, without any refreshment except what a servant had carried with us; but I believe our satisfaction much exceeded our fatigue.

Aug. 15. This day Dr. Bellardi and my-felf ascended the hill called Ronche, immediately behind the hospital, where Professor Allioni first discovered Viola Cenisia and Campanula Cenisia. Dr. Bellardi sound them this day, though I was not so fortunate; nor did I meet with any thing very desirable except Juncus Jacquini; and in the boggy sides of a little rivulet, in the very highest part of the mountain, a little Carex of great

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rarity, the juncifolia of Allioni's Flora Pedemontana. This is certainly the same species as Lightsoot's C. incurva, though on the Alps its stem is seldom curved. I have it also from Iceland. Juncus triglumis grew along with it, and in other parts of the hill Carex fætida of Allioni, and C. atrata, with Antirrhinum multicaule.

Before the post-house are some remarkable white limestone rocks, on which grow Dianthus virgineus, and the real Festuca spadicea (see Trans. of Linn. Soc. vol. i. p. 111). Below these rocks by the lake I gathered the most beautiful Gentiana asclepiadea, and in the furrounding pastures Agrostema Flos Jovis, Senecio Doronicum, Aster alpinus, Centaurea uniflora, Arnica montana, and the Rumex arifolius of Linnæus's Supplement, which last is, I presume, more certainly a native of the Alps than of Abysfinia. Immediately before the hospital is great plenty of Rumex alpinus, and a little farther on I joyfully waded up to my knees in a fwamp to gather Swertia perennis. All the plain abounds with the beautiful Dianthus alpinus, the leaves of which differ for much. firian one, that I have sometimes suspected them to be distinct species. Nothing however is more common on Mount Cenis than Dryas octopetala, forming thick tusts many feet in breadth, covered with its elegant slowers and feathery heads of seeds. On this elastic alpine couch we frequently reposed when tired with walking, and the delicious temperature of the air made any shelter perfectly indifferent.

Such are a part of the botanical riches of this interesting mountain, not to mention numerous species of Arenaria, Silene, Achillea, Astragalus, Juncus, and grasses of various kinds. Of all these treasures I laid in as large a stock as I could well bring away, multiplying my own enjoyments in the anticipation of the pleasure I should have in supplying my friends at home. The selfish dealer in mysteries and secrets, the hoarder of unique specimens, knows nothing of the best pleasures of science.

Aug. 16. My Turin friends returned home; but as Mr. de St. Real and his companion

panion were to take leave of their alpine abode a few days after, I was induced to stay, and accompany them into Savoy. To these gentlemen I am obliged for the following measurements:

The height of the furface of \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \	Fr. feet.	Eng. feet.
the lake of Mount Cenis \ 962	5772	6151
above the fea is		
Hofpital — — 996	5976	6369
Summit of little Mount Cenis 1557	9342	9956
Do. of Roche Melun, the		
Do. of Roche Melun, the highest hill in the neigh- 1873	11238	11977
bourhood		

On the top of this hill, which is more than three times as high as any in Britain, grows Geum reptans or G. montanum, I could not, from the specimen I saw, exactly determine which. In order to reach this elevated spot, even from the plain of Mount Cenis, one day is not sufficient. Mr. de St. Real and his friend were obliged to pass the night in a chapel built a considerable way up Roche Melun, and which is itself so difficult of access as to be scarcely visited more than once a year by some of the neighbouring peasants.

Aug. 17. This day the mountaineers began to foretel, by certain figns best known to themselves, the approach of bad weather, and the conclusion of their transitory summer. We profited of their hint. The tent was furled, and our departure fixed for the next day. In the afternoon I had the fublime fatisfaction of contemplating the coming on of an alpine storm. The wind began to rise in the north. Small dense clouds entered the valley at that end one by one, filently posting themselves about the bases of the hills on each fide, and waiting there till the gathering tempest advanced in all its majesty, when these little scouts or out-guards joined the main army of clouds and storms in its progress along the plain.

Aug. 18. A dull but not rainy day, we descended to Lanslebourg after dinner on soot, for the sake of botanizing. I turned aside into the sir forests on the left, where among trickling mostly rills grew the beautiful Pyrola uniflora in slower, which smells exactly like Lily of the valley, with P. minor and secunda in fruit; also, among other things of less

note, Viola biflora and the real Melampyrum fylvaticum of Linnæus. Towards Lanslebourg I observed Sambucus racemosa full of red berries, and Gentiana cruciata.

Mr. de St. Real faved me from all trouble and imposition by arranging every thing, relative to our conveyance, with the *Commis*, at whose house we supped. The whole of our journey to St. Jean de Maurienne was nothing but a succession of visits.

Aug. 19 (Sunday). After the pious part of our company had heard mass, we left Lanslebourg, and proceeded along a tolerably level road, through a mountainous and rocky country, to a little town three or four miles distant, where we dined with a pretty large party at the habitation of the Curé. Salvia glutinosa was here in flower by the road side. After dinner we proceeded on foot with most of the party to a house a mile distant, and then continued our journey through a very romantic valley, passing the losty cascade of la pucelle, to the house of another of the Chevalier's acquaintances, who works a lead mine. Here among other company was a

great

great cultivator of animal magnetism, at whose whimsies, when not too contemptible, we laughed among ourselves. The men submitted to his experiments without effect, for want of faith, and the ladies could not be persuaded to submit to them at all. The mere proposal excited such terror in them, as to be sufficient to account most abundantly for any consequences that might have followed if they had been magnetized.

Aug. 20. We arrived by dinner-time at the spacious old mansion of the Chevalier, in the town of St. Jean de Maurienne. In the afternoon we had various visitors. The ladies were obliging enough to entertain us with songs, some of them in a style of freedom, which in more refined, though perhaps not more innocent, countries, would be thought worse than indelicate.

Aug. 21. Dr. Marcoz, a physician and botanist, conducted me to a place called Roche noire to look for Cypripedium Calceolus (Ladies' Slipper), but it was entirely withered. I gathered here on trees Lichen saturninus,

ninus, Trans. of Linn. Soc. vol. i. 84; and all the shady clefts of the neighbouring rocks abounded with the most beautiful Melampy-rum nemorosum, whose red and yellow slowers, amid sky-blue and purple bracker, form the richest combination possible, which, but in the hands of Nature, would be tawdry. Well might Linnus esteem this plant worthy to decorate the palace of Flora herself (Flo. Suec.). I found also a Carex whose capsules resemble the seeds of Coriander, and which I cannot determine in any systematic author. It appears to be figured in Plukenet, tab. 91. fig. 2.

After dinner we visited the Bishop, who talked much with me about the English language, our celebrated writers, our style of gardening, &c. on all which subjects he seemed well informed.

Aug. 22. I took leave of my kind hoft, and travelled post to Chambery, through a pleasant and romantic country. The distance is fix posts and a half; the expence (as I had no carriage of my own) amounted to five livres a post, with twenty sous to the driver,

which are five more than he could lawfully demand. A voiturin undertook to convey me to Geneva for two louis d'or. There was fome little demur with the post-master, as every traveller who comes to a place by the post must, by law, remain twenty-four hours before he can travel with a voiturin; and I believe by the same law, if he comes with a voiturin, he cannot immediately take the post. The reason of this I am unacquainted with; but the voiturin settled the point by some means or other, and we lest Chambery without delay.

The Manuel mentions this as the "dreary capital of a very dreary province;" but I have feldom feen a more beautiful, nor apparently a richer, country than on this fide Chambery. It confifts of corn-fields intermixed with chefnut groves, and rifes gradually on the right and left to the mountains, whose fides are clothed with wood, and studded with villas and hamlets. The road is excellent. We slept at l'Ecu de France, the first post, a most comfortable neat little inn.

From the specimen I had of Savoy, I cannot say much to the credit of its inhabitants in general as to neatness, any more than mental delicacy, which I believe go very much together. In the higher ranks unequal marriages (as to age) are very common, which is not a favourable omen of the morality of a country.

Aug. 23. I reached Geneva in the afternoon. By the road fide the elegant and fragrant Dianthus Superbus, ragged Pink, was in bloom. The suburbs of Geneva are very extensive and populous. We entered the town without any examination.

The first thing I heard here was every body in the streets singing airs out of Rousseau's Devin de Village, which is often acted here; and his portrait with various honorary devices is to be found in every house and shop. What do we learn from hence? That the more public opinion is missed for a time, and made the tool of unjust persecution, it afterwards, with the more violence, takes a contrary bent, when once it finds itself the dupe of designing villany or bigotry; especially as cruelty is the most detestable of vices, all social crimes being black in proportion as they partake

partake of it. And as power combined with cruelty is the most odious form in which human nature in fociety can appear, whoever fuffers from its malignity, naturally obtains our pity and indulgence, and we exaggerate all his merits. Hence fome characters acquire celebrity with very weak pretensions; and hence even the best perhaps have often providentially derived a splendour and authority which human virtue and wifdom are in themselves seldom unmixed or exalted enough to deferve, and still more feldom conspicuous enough to the "fwinish multitude" to obtain. Let it be remembered therefore, by all whom it may concern, that discussion can never finally injure truth, nor perfecution root out error; that the way to render a people truly religious and truly loyal is to make them intelligent and happy; and the government which does this in the greatest perfection, whatever its form may be, need fear neither atheists, revolutionists, nor levellers; while all those which fail in these points, have so far in themselves the feeds of their own destruction.

Geneva is too well known to render a de-Vol. III, L fcription fcription necessary. The stately Rhone, rushing out of its lake in the middle of the town, is a magnificent and indeed a tremendous object. The inhabitants of the trembling houses around must surely be in constant dread for their children playing on its brink, and indeed for themselves in dark or slippery weather. Some of the streets, consisting principally of shops, have the footway sheltered by a very singular kind of wooden arches, called domes, as high as the roofs of the houses. They are excessively clumsy, and make the houses very dark.

I had many visits to pay at Geneva, and was much pleased with the liveliness and general intelligence of the people, which reminded me of our large commercial towns in England. The women are for the most part handsome and well-made, much superior in this respect to the men. It is a favourite amusement here to sing satirical songs against the Catholic religion to the old Calvinistic psalm tunes, and that even on a Sunday. The church psalmody itself is very much in the Sternhold and Hopkins style, and the music not unsuitable.

But pitying Heav'n the mind alone regards,
And tuneful fouls, not tuneful founds, rewards.
Oh happy fouls, to whom fuch grace is giv'n,
That founds infernal make them dream of heav'n!"

This town possesses many celebrated literary characters. I had the pleasure of attending, along with Dr. Butini, jun. a fort of medical conversazione, composed of the chief physicians, who meet every Saturday at each other's houses, and take it by turns to give an account of what remarkable cases may have occurred in their practice. Dr. Butini, fen. very eminent in his profession, and a candid well-informed man, spoke of the effects of Lacerta agilis, the common lizard, a very popular medicine at that time in Geneva for cutaneous complaints, and, like all popular medicines, for many others. It is remarkable however for hurting the lungs; occasioning coughs and spitting of blood. The mufcular parts only of the animal are taken raw in a bolus as foon as killed, and prove violently fudorific. Such is the account I heard. The good effects of magistery of bismuth, in spasmodic disorders of the stomach, were likewise mentioned.

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The dose is four grains four times a day. It is said to be perfectly innocent, notwith-standing Mr. Fourcroy's suspicions, in his Elemens de Chymie.

Mr. Tingry, an apothecary and excellent chemist, has a capital collection of minerals. His silver ores, particularly *Luna cornea*, are extremely sine, as are the different forms of Feldtspath found at Mount St. Gothard by Father Pini.

Mr. Tingry conducted me to Mr. De Luc, the brother of our great and amiable natural philosopher of Windsor, in order to see his superb cabinet of shells and extraneous fossils. Among the former are several nondescripts, and among the latter an Echinus in shint with its spines, which when found separate are called the Lapis Judaicus; also a most curious and undoubtedly new species of Turbo, allied to the wenteltrap (T. scalaris), but not so long; its ribs are closer together, and the circumvolutions contiguous. Mr. De Luc's minute fossil shells are also numerous and sine.

The celebrated historian of Geneva, Mr. Senebier, was fo kind as to shew me the public

public library, which is not very large. The most curious things are several manuscript maps by Benincasa, dated 1476, in which some of the West Indian islands, as Cuba, are delineated, though, if this date be authentic, the maps are anterior to Columbus's first voyage. The tablets of wax containing an account of the household of Philip le bel of France, and a manuscript of St. Augustine's epistles on papyrus. On all these things Mr. Senebier has published. This gentleman is also distinguished for his experiments relating to the physiology of vegetables.

But the most illustrious philosopher of Geneva, Mr. Bonnet, must not be forgotten. I visited him at the village of Genthod, on the north-east banks of the lake. He received me with the greatest kindness; and though almost deprived of sight and hearing, he conversed long and most instructively on our favourite subjects, affording a fresh proof of the truth of what I have observed in speaking of the venerable Father Jacquier at Rome (vol. ii. p. 60). His most remarkable observation, that the vegetable circula-

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tion may probably be one day detected, I have elsewhere recorded (Phil. Trans. for 1788, p. 164). He believes the style of vegetables is always perforated, and gapes to admit the pollen. Mr. Bonnet told me the quarto edition of his works was much more correct than the octavo, and concluded his discourse with an earnest exhortation to purfue the physiology of vegetables, in preference to nomenclature, though I had even then but just experienced the necessity of the latter, having been utterly unable to make this good man understand what I meant by Berberis vulgaris (not happening to recollect the French name Epine vinette), about which I wanted much to talk to him, and on which he himself has so particularly written. Surely experimental naturalists are greatly obliged to those who help them to know one thing from another, for want of which knowledge one of the most famous of their tribe took young fnails in the aqueduct of Genoa for a Tremella, and then (which is no wonder) proved it to be of an animal nature. Having made some attempts in both these different walks of science, I may presume to

fay it appears to me, as the objects of natural history are so immensely numerous, and so intricately connected, that to excel in methodical arrangement requires more clearness of judgment, more acute discrimination in the mind, than is necessary to attain all that has yet been attained in physiology; and I believe none ever despised the systematic part of this science, but those who had either never considered it at all, or who had laboured in vain to acquire it. The most able and ingenious people that I know in either department, are invariably those who equally respect both.

In the garden of a Mr. Slon, well stocked in exotics, chiefly from the French collections, I for the first time saw in slower Passifora incarnata, the first species of Passion-slower brought into Europe, though now the P. cærulea is become infinitely more common. Just so the Tropæolum majus has taken place, of the minus in England, though the latter only is cultivated in all the courts and bowers of Geneva.

I had an interview of a few minutes only with Mr. De Saussure, who was then just L 4 descended

descended from the summit of Mont Blanc. His expedition is too well known to need any illustration here.

I fortunately met at Geneva with the celebrated zoologist, Professor Zimmerman of Brunfwick, who was travelling with a young Englishman of quality. We had indeed met at Venice. Geneva always abounds with English travellers, who naturally enough affociate together. But it is more advisable for the young, who go abroad for instruction, to feek the company of the intelligent and accomplished natives of the countries where they are, rather than to be eternally despising all that is not English, and labouring perhaps to make up a miserable horse-race, or some fuch diversion, which after all can be but a bad fubflitute for what they have in greater perfection at home.

## CHAP. XL.

GLACIERS OF SAVOY—MARTIGNI—SALT
MINES OF BEX -LAKE OF GENEVA—

LAUSANNE—BERNE—GRAVE

OF HALLER.

Aug. 30. I UNDERTOOK an expedition, indifpensable to every naturalist or admirer of landscape who comes to Geneva, that of the circuit of the lake by the Glaciers of Savoy. The first night I slept at Salenche, passing a very pleasant evening with two gentlemen who were returning from the country I was going to visit, and whose mules and guide served me the next day.

Aug. 31. I began to enter on the alpine scenery, proceeding along the valley till the road led across a very high hill. Passed a most beautiful little lake on the left, smooth

as a looking-glass, bordered with velvet banks and hanging groves, just like a piece of water in a pleasure-ground, and finely contrasted with the rugged objects around. This lake empties itself under a bridge over which the road passes, and the water is precipitated down a very craggy channel into the valley below.

At Servos, a village at the entrance of the valley of Chamouni, I called on Mr. Exchaquet, superintendant of the neighbouring mines, in order to see his model of the Glaciers and valley of Chamouni, and was extremely pleased to have such a comprehensive view in miniature of the noble scenes I was going to admire. This model is carved in wood, and coloured; the ice being well imitated by broken glass. Its scale is about a line to 18 toises, that is 15552 times less than the vast original!

From hence the road leads through the valley, or rather along the north fide of a hill, part of the ample basement of *Mont Blanc*. The scenery became more and more sublime and picturesque; vast woods of fir hanging above and below me, whose gloomy colour

colour was strikingly contrasted with fertile meadows, and with the towering mountains which crowned the whole, capped with eternal snow.

When I had baited at the little fequestered town of Chamouni, I examined the Glacier of Boffons the same evening. After a long painful ascent through the fir forests, where however I gathered Pyrola minor and fecunda, and caught Cerambyx Sutor, I croffed the glacier or valley of ice. Every one must be ftruck with the novelty, beauty, and grandeur of this scene: rocks of the most spotless fnow, or rather ice, opposed to the gloomy groves around; the clear blue fky; the refulgence of the fetting fun on the mountain tops; the filent valley beneath already obscured with the dusk of the evening. I admired the fea-green or blue colour which appears in the clefts of the ice, and drank of the pure water that flows in these clefts, and forms as it were springs in the icy rocks. This water is excellent in taste, and the guide affured me it was the most wholefome of all water; in which he is more likely to be right than those who gratuitously suppose pose goitres to be owing to the use of snow water, and who "strut in the livery and brass buttons of the ancients, and call their servility learning \*."

Sept. 1. A bright frosty morning, like our weather in the end of October, I ascended the hill called *Montanvert*, whose top looks down on the finest of all the glaciers, the Mer de glace.

Having gone a confiderable way through the pine forests, and the road becoming too bad for our mules, we were obliged to proceed on foot. Here grew Astrantia minor, and plenty of Lichen aphthosus in full fructification. After a very long difficult ascent, we reached one of the summits of the hill above most of the woods, commanding the Mer de glace, which with the high peaked rocks above it, and the black woods below, formed a scene beyond description. We descended the side of the hill and walked a considerable way upon the ice, but found it impossible to go to the extremity, called the

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<sup>\*</sup> Richardson's Grandison, vol. i. letter 12.

lac du Tacul, it being three hours walk. Nevertheless I do not doubt but we should have thought our pains well repaid had the day been long enough for the undertaking. I was obliged to content myself with this view of the icy ocean, which fomebody has well compared to a fea instantaneously frozen in a violent storm. It is bounded on every fide, except at the outlet towards Chamouni, with towering granite rocks called needles, fo fleep and pointed that no fnow can lie upon them. Their fummits are so slender and full of cracks, that one would expect every frost and thaw should shiver down fragments of their points; but they are faid never apparently to change their form. On the margin of the Mer de glace I gathered the beautiful and rare Lichen croceus, and on a perpendicular rock that overhangs it Gentiana purpurea. The root of this Gentian is full as bitter as the G. lutea; it ferves the fame medical purposes as the latter in some countries, and a ship from Norway once brought a quantity of it to Edinburgh, where it was used with good success, and found its way into the Edinburgh Pharmacopæia copœia by the name of *Curfuta*, a word which has puzzled all etymologists, but which I conceive to be a corruption of *Skar-söte* (Mountain foot), its Norway name. See Gunner's Flo. Norveg. 46.

We ascended again the eminence we had just left, and dined on some cold provisions in a little hut built a few years ago by a Mr. Blair, at a small expence, to accommodate travellers, for which he merits the thanks of all those who visit this spot. Two poor women, who had of their own accord accompanied us, treated us with strawberries and raspberries just gathered on the hills, and employed themselves with knitting while we flayed. They received a fmall gratuity with great thankfulness, and dined on our bread and cheefe, for it being Saturday, they would on no account touch meat. In this neighbourhood grow feveral good Lichens, among others L. encaustus, Tr. of Linn. Soc. vol. i. 83, tab. 4, f. 6, which my worthy friend Mr. Davall has fince found near Orbe in Switzerland. The neighbouring inhabitants are allowed to cut as much wood as they like in these forests, for paying a small annual tax to his Sardinian majesty. By

By another road we descended to the fource of the river Arveron, which owes its origin to feveral cascades falling from this glacier, and probably to some springs below it. In the fir wood on its banks lay a huge cubic rock, many yards broad, which had rolled down from the mountain not many years ago. Smaller maffes of stone, separated by frost, frequently fall down into the valleys along with portions of ice in the fummer. The branches of the trees in all these forests are hung with festoons of Lichen divaricatus, and their trunks ornamented with the real L. juniperinus of Linnæus, not that of British writers. All the rocks in the valley abound with umbilicated Lichens, as pustulatus, proboscideus, and polyrbizos, or velleus, for I believe they are one and the fame.

Sept. 2. The valley of Chamouni is closed at its eastern extremity by a high mountain called the Col de Balme, which we were therefore obliged to cross. Its summit commands a noble view both ways. The valley of Chamouni lay like a map at our feet, with

Montanvert crowned by the majestic Mont Blanc on the left hand, and feveral glaciers interfecting the fir woods in different places below. The boggy turf of the Col de Balme afforded me many rare plants, which in less elevated spots flower in the early part of fummer, but which here were now in bloom, as Cardamine bellidifolia, Azalea procumbens, Juncus filiformis, Veronica alpina and aphylla, the latter being only in feed, among many things found on Mount Cenis. We walked down the hill through a very romantic old forest, and stopped at a little hamlet in the valley, whose houses were built in the most maffy style, not of boards but of huge beams, very neat and comfortable within, in the form of their apartments not unlike a ship. We dined truly in the pastoral manner on eggs, milk, butter and honey. This valley abounds with the most luxuriant herbage, interspersed with many stately plants, as Gentiana-lutea and Veratrum album. It is in fuch places only that the larger alpine vegetables are found, and they grow much more luxuriantly here than in any garden. had afterwards another rugged hill to climb; and

and then descended on the other side to Martigni by a very bad steep road, but amid such scenery as

" Made a pastime of each weary step."

Here I first gathered Potentilla rupestris, by the road side. Martigni is a pretty little town, situated at the entrance of the valley which bears its name, and of which we had a noble view in descending the hill. This valley is watered by the Rhone, and bounded on each side by lofty and very abrupt hills.

It feemed about a mile in breadth, very level, and extends eastward a long way towards Mount St. Gothard. On our right was an alpine pass, leading to the great Mount St. Bernard.

The inn at Martigni is not unaptly called la grande maison. It is quadrangular, with a court in the centre, surrounded by a clumsy colonnade, and was built, as the landlord told me, to receive a Princess of Piedmont about 700 years ago. Nothing could be a better theatre for a romantic tale of chivalry and apparitions. On a rock in this town are the remains of a Roman fortress. The

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country is very beautiful, planted with chefnut and other trees, and the foil feems rich-

Scpt. 3. Our road lay northward along the valley which makes nearly a right angle with that of Martigni, and like that is watered by the Rhone in its way to the lake of Geneva. We croffed the Durance, which is here very rapid, and about two miles farther the Nant du Trient, a river that appears to fpring from a vaft chasin in the rock on the left. A little farther on is the beautiful cafcade filthily, though not undefcriptively, named Piffe Vache, which burfts forth from an opening about half way up the perpendicular rock. The fun now formed a rainbow in its fpray at the bottom. Papilio Antiope was here flying about, and many large Grylli. Geranium palustre grows in the ditches. We foon reached St. Maurice, a pretty confiderable town, with an old bridge of one arch over the Rhone, which we croffed, and entered the Canton of Berne, and two miles farther came to the village of Bex.

Here my servant found a Protestant French

prayer-book in the kitchen, where God was addressed in the singular number, tu, at which he was exceffively fcandalifed, Catholics always praying in the plural, as being most respectful. This was my first opportunity of giving him a lecture on Christian charity, for to that alone do I ever try to make converts. Let me not in the mean time fin against it myself, by neglecting to record the liberality of this young man's confessor at Milan; who in giving him instructions, of which no divine need have been ashamed, when he heard he had engaged himself to an English master, told him, simply, " not to neglect his religion as too many people did in England," but never mentioned our faith being different from his, nor was he acquainted with this circumstance till I informed him of it.

Bex is chiefly famous for its falt-works, which are easily accessible on a civil application to the director.

The first part shewn is the batiment de graduation, a long shed, covering a vast pile of small sticks, laid loosely upon each other, so as to form a fort of silter. The salt-water

M 2

pumps to the top of these sticks; and as they are open on all sides to the air, though sheltered from rain, in trickling through them about half the pure water evaporates, and the brine collected in a large cistern below sit for boiling, is twice as strong as before this operation, containing about 35 per cent. weight of salt. A calcareous crust is likewise gradually deposited on these sticks, and when overloaded with it they are changed for new ones. In a place adjoining are cauldrons for boiling the brine till the salt is crystallized from it.

From hence about half an hour's ride up the mountain, among very pleafant fields and groves, brought us to the first mine. This is entered by a subterraneous gallery, hewn out of the solid rock, leading to a well of a vast depth, out of which the salt-water is pumped. Here too we were shewn a stupendous reservoir, 100 feet long, about 50 broad, and seven or eight in depth, likewise cut out of the rock, to hold water for working in winter, when the pumps are sometimes stopped by frost.

At fome distance farther up the hill is the principal mine, which we entered by a very long passage or gallery cut in the rock. The huge wheel which works all the pumps is really stupendous. When one considers that it has been conveyed piece-meal through a small passage in the rock above, and that the vast cavity in which it turns, with all these dark wells and passages, have been hewn out of the live stone, which is of no inconsiderable hardness, the whole is one of the most striking monuments of human industry.

These works are supplied from several springs of salt-water, some of them sulphureous; but the sulphur evaporates in the batiment de graduation, and such springs are not esteemed inserior to the pure salt ones. The stone from which all these waters run is soft and black. The mines are said to yield seven or eight thousand quintals per annum. A quintal is one hundred pounds, of eighteen ounces to the pound. This salt is used chiesly in the Canton of Berne. It is prohibited in Italy, and the French and Germans do not want it. I was afterwards

informed that these mines are kept up for oftentation only; that the government loses by them, and the country is really supplied in a great measure with French salt.

Sept. 4. From hence I fent back the mules of Chamouni, hired at Salenche, with their owner, and proceeded to Ville-neuve in a char a banc, a fingular species of vehicle, in which one rides sideways very little raised above the dirt or dust of the road, and quite open to it. The valley here is dilated into a most beautiful tract of country diversified with fields and trees, bounded on each side with a variety of mountainous and rocky scenery, and terminated by the lake of Geneva, into which the Rhone enters at its extremity close to Ville-neuve.

Often had I, in various places, imagined I had found scenes equal to any thing Switzer-land could present; but when I came to this celebrated country itself, I was obliged to own it far surpassed my expectations. No where is there such variety of magnificence, harmoniously combined with so many softer charms; such lakes so beautifully bordered;

fuch varied and luxuriant verdure; fo graceful an outline, and fuch a diverfity of hill and dale, mountain and valley, from the gently undulating corn-field and vineyard, to the most rugged and stupendous precipice, towering above the dark impenetrable forest, and crowned with eternal snow.

A boat conveyed me over the smooth blue furface of the lake to Vevai. Clouds hung about the middle of the hills, but the sun shone bright, and there was scarcely a breath of air. Clarens, immortalized by Rousseau, is a little village crowned with a romantic old mansion-house, which I conceived might have been Julia's residence, and could not help remarking a high and abrupt part of the shore, not far distant, as the spot where her maternal fondness might probably have cost her her life. On the opposite banks I contemplated the blue rocks of Meillerie, and longed to visit them.

Vevai is a pretty little town, of whose situation Aberli's charming print gives a very accurate idea, with Ville-neuve, Clarens, Meillerie, and all I have just been describing. It was market day. The people looked M 4 cleanly,

cleanly, bufy, and cheerful, and I fancied inyfelf in England. From this place to Laufanne the road is narrow and bad, but bordered with pleafant vineyards, and commanding fine views of the lake. It reminded me fomewhat of the riviera or coast of Genoa.

Laufanne stands in the most delightful summer situation that can be imagined; the view from the principal church, once the cathedral, is particularly beautiful. Many English are generally resident here, and the accommodations for strangers are very convenient.

I visited the celebrated physician Mr. Tisfot, though unprovided with letters of introduction, and found him a tall thin man
about fixty years of age, not unlike Profesfor Gouan of Montpellier. He received
me at first with great stiffness, taking me
probably for a patient, but was afterwards
very polite and conversible. He spoke with
some asperity of the great ignorance of the
present Roman and Venetian physicians, of
which I have heard other accounts, not perhaps altogether salse; but I beg leave here to
offer

offer one remark on the difference of opinion among physicians of different countries, as to the treatment of the same disorders. Every physician knows best the nature of the climate and of the prevailing diseases of the country where he has most studied and practised, and can judge of their type (if I may use a technical word) better than any foreigner. In some countries, for instance, bleeding is more adviseable in fevers than in others; in Italy confumptions are found to be very contagious, though lefs evidently fo in England. In fome places the evening, in others the night, air is unwholesome, and dangers, of which we do not dream, are to be apprehended from the cheerful beams of the fun. Hence the advantage of travelling to a medical man of a penetrating discriminative mind, and its danger to a fervile plodding copier, who does what he fees other people do, without knowing the reason why, and thinks a jumble of indigested observation will stand him in the stead of experience. Oh, Nature! how merciful art thou, to be fo feldom diverted from thy good purpose by any thing we can do, though ever ready to be affifted by us! and what a kind veil haft thou cast over the real success of our endeavours!

Mr. Tiffot prefented me with a little pamphlet of his own on the Vapours, of which he had just printed a few copies to give away. It is a sketch of an intended more ample work. In conversation he did great justice to the late Dr. Cullen, though he differs from him in some theories.

I had letters to Mr. Van Berchem, jun. an ingenious botanist, author of the Journal d'un Voyage dans la haute Faucigny, with whom I drank tea in the English manner, and met Mr. Reynier, mentioned in that work, a young man of great ardour, who thought he had obtained fertile seeds from a flower of Alcea rosea, though the stamina and style were cut away before it expanded. He seemed to be convinced of the accuracy of his experiment, and to be much satisfied with its result. Those who have any doubt on this subject, ought to repeat such experiments with great care. I have not hitherto been staggered by any of them, but that is

no reason other persons should rely on my opinion.

The mail diligence conveyed me to Berne, eighteen leagues distant, in about eleven hours, by night, arriving there in the morning of Thursday.

Sept. 6. This was a fast-day, the only one in the year observed here. The occasion I know not. The shops were shut; most people at church, and many in mourning.

There are few prettier cleaner towns than Berne, nor many whose public walks are so charming and so varied; particularly that out of the gates, from whence Aberli's view of this town is taken, and from whence the snowy Alps, in the centre of Switzerland, make a noble appearance, especially when tinged with gold by the setting sun. In the wood at the end of this walk Asta spicata grows wild, and Buxbaumia aphylla.

The Falcen is an excellent inn, with a good table d'hôte, at which I became acquainted with one of the fons of the great Haller, who refembles his father (as I was told) in person, sondness for botany, versatility and

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even strength of genius; but not altogether in application.

I was much indebted to the politeness of Mr. Wyttenbach, one of the chief clergymen of this place, a most estimable character, who has cultivated natural history (especially mineralogy) with much success. We visited together a Mr. Sprüngly, at a small distance from the town, who has nearly a complete collection of the Swiss birds, and a very choice cabinet of shells.

Criminals may be feen in the streets here chained and drawing dung-carts, as delineated in Mr. Howard's book on Prisons. These, it is to be presumed, have merited their sate, and it is to be hoped will be amended by it; but what can the poor bears have done to deserve being kept prisoners of state in the ditch of the town ramparts, except having the missortune to make a sigure in the arms of Berne? Ancient custom occasions them to be maintained here at the public expence, and they afford no small amusement to passengers, who look at them from the road over a parapet wall. Their keepers attend them fearlessly in the area where they run

loose about; but one of these poor people accidentally waiting upon them one day in his holiday clothes, to which they were not accustomed, was in a moment torn to pieces.

I one afternoon was present at the funeral of a lady in the principal burying-ground. Her husband attended, with a large company befides. The relations accompanied the corpse to the grave; the rest of the party remained in the street talking. The coffin, made of wood blacked, without ornament or inscription, was laid in the earth, and immediately covered up; no prayers were faid, nor did it at all refemble a religious ceremony, except that the company kept their hats off while in the burying-ground. Surely this is running into an ill-judged extreme. Without any idea of prayers being of service to the dead, they may be highly useful to the living; and a funeral appears to me a most favourable opportunity of impressing the mind with wholesome reflections, which a good moral legislature ought not to neglect: They never bury in churches here, in which we should do well to imitate them; nor do they often erect monuments, or mark the **fpot** 5

spot of the interment of any one. I observed but two memorials of this kind, one of them for Fabricius Hildanus, the surgeon.

The illustrious Haller lies undistinguished in this cemetery. I inquired in vain for the exact situation of his grave\*. He was not popular in his own country, having imbibed notions in Germany not exactly suited to its republican spirit; but his name will live when changes now unthought of shall have taken place; when Switzerland may be enflaved or deserted; or when on the contrary her banners of virtuous liberty shall

"Gather in their shade the living world."

The omission of a monument to Haller is, however, a less reflexion upon his countrymen, than the sale of his famous and very capital library and herbarium to the Emperor, the very same year that they expended more than the sum for which it was fold, in a sirework at Berne, to celebrate I know not what marriage or birth of one of the Austrian

<sup>\*</sup> Since my visit to Berne, this same spot has received the ashes of the celebrated naturalist and traveller Ferber.

family! Surely Haller could have had no more fervility than this! Nor do I believe this impeachment of his character can have originated in any thing else than party calumny; for his beautiful poems certainly breathe a very different spirit, and are no less manly in fentiment (perhaps to a degree which some might term the enthusiasm of liberty) than rich in imagery, and in

"The pure and precious pearls of iplendid thought."

They were written indeed before he went to Germany, but often republished afterwardsunder his own inspection.

## CHAP. XLI.

TOMB OF MRS. LANGHANS—BASLE—STRASBURGH—NANCY TO PARIS.

Sept. 8. In the evening I fet out in the diligence for Bâsle, and arrived there to breakfast.

A few miles from Berne passed the church of Hindelbanck, where I should have been glad to have stopped, had that been possible, to visit the monument of Mrs. Langhans, so well known by a fine French print, and by an English one after it. Of its history however I heard more than is commonly known in England.

This lady was the wife of the clergyman of the parish, and a very beautiful woman. The sculptor, whose name, if ever I heard it, has escaped me, resided some time in her husband's house, and was sufpected

pected of being fecretly enamoured of her charms. He was employed to erect a maufoleum in this church for fome great man of the neighbourhood, which, when finished, the tasteless heirs caused to be dawbed over with paint and gilding. This treatment of his performance fo mortified the artist, that he refolved to execute fome work on the fpot which should entirely draw off all attention from the tawdry bauble by which he thought himself difgraced. He accordingly gratified at once his revengeful and his tender feelings by executing the monument of Mrs. Langhans, who died just at the time. She is represented with her infant in her arms rifing through the horizontal tomb-stone, which appears as if broken by her effort, and eafily yielding to let her pass. It is not of marble, but of the common stone of the country. The epitaph in German is only this: "Here I am, oh Lord! with the child that thou hast given me." A thought worthy of the monument.

Bâle or Basil is an old irregular town, illpaved, but the houses almost as neat as in Holland. The Three Kings is an excellent inn, with a very pleasant open gallery, in which I dined at the table d'hôte, with a fine view of the river. The Rhine is here about as broad and rapid as the Rhone at Lyons, and much resembles that river. The dinner hour is half past eleven, true time, which the people of Bâle, from an ancient custom peculiar to themselves, are pleased to call half past twelve, their clocks being always kept an hour forwarder than their neighbours'.

The most memorable thing in the principal church is the tomb of Erasmus, a plain red marble slab, with an inscription in gold letters, beginning Deo Triuno, but too long and tedious to copy. In a kind of cloister adjoining I recognized some monuments of the Bauhins, but their epitaphs are much essayed. This cloister is in great use as a burying-place. Near it is a delightful little public walk on a very high terrace, commanding the river and town with the rich country around.

The public library is particularly interesting, on account of various relicks of Erafmus and his friend Hans Holbein; and the Professors are always ready; one or other of

them, to shew it in detail to strangers of curiofity. Of its various treasures Dr. Younge had informed me by letter, and I found nothing had escaped his accuracy. This library was founded about 300 years ago, and is a very good one. There is a room full of paintings and sketches, chiefly by Holbein, and in his best manner. The Passion of our Saviour in eight separate compartments, apparently intended for the doors of a small organ, seems as fresh as if done yesterday. The countenances have not that great stiffness remarkable in most paintings of this date (about 1520), and the colouring is fine. The Last Supper is a larger piece, with figures nearly the fize of life, the characters of which are well expressed, and the colouring very admirable. There is a most capital miniature of Erasinus by Holbein, and another portrait of the same eminent character. writing, a profile, which still seems to think and to write; truer representations of nature than these two pictures can scarcely any where be found. The marginal drawings by Holbein in the Eulogium Stultitiæ are what have been engraved, except one which

I do

I do not recollect in the printed copies, of Mars and Venus awake in bed, and Vulcan putting a chain round them, to which they make no refistance. Here are also the Will of Erasmus in his own hand-writing; the manuscript Decree of the Council of Basil for the suspension of the Papal authority; and, among the printed books, the Offices of the Romish Church by Fust, dated 1459, the sirst book ever printed with moveable types.

In the house of a Counsellor Pfysch (Fish) I was shewn a collection of pictures and drawings well worthy of notice, chiefly of the Flemish school, among which is an admirable sketch of the Resurrection of Lazarus by Rubens. There are also a few Italian productions; two pictures by Raphael in his earliest manner, and a juvenile performance of Andrea del Sarto, stiff but very delicate. Above all I admired the original drawing by Raphael of God the Creator with out-spread hands, feparating the light from the darknefs, as painted in the Vatican. This drawing is much superior to the painting, and fhews the genius of Raphael in great perfection.

One of the most capital print-shops in Europe is at Bâle, belonging to Mr. Mechell.

The famous painting of the Dance of Death is still to be seen on the wall of a church-yard in this town: the sigures are as large as life. Death is represented seizing each rank and condition in a different way. This singular performance is said to have been executed by a pupil of Holbein, but probably after his own sketches. There are several different editions, if I may say so, of the same design in print. One of them in wooden cuts was obligingly given me by Mr. Touchon, minister of this parish. The composition and sigures of it are similar to the painting, but not the same.

Mr. Bernouilli, an excellent chemist and mineralogist, has a handsome general cabinet of Natural History. I observed a piece of petrissed wood, with the agate nuclei of two fresh-water snails attached to it, and petrissed along with it. Also one or two very good drawings of birds, marked G. H. said to be by Holbein; but this cannot be Hans Holbein, unless he meant to write his christian name in Italian, Giovanni.

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Dr. Socin, Professor of Natural Philosophy, a very ingenious well-informed man, was physician to the late Princess of Hesse Cassel, daughter of King George II. He shewed me two very interesting experiments: one of firing gunpowder with the electric sluid in very small quantity, by interposing a glass tube with its inside moist in any part of the conducting chain, and so making the communication weak in that part; the other of firing touch-wood with a concave mirror and lighted charcoal, as described by himself in Rosier's Journal for October, 1785, page 268.

The celebrated botanical Professor, Mr. De Lachenal, allowed me to inspect the herbarium of the Bauhins, which he bought for a mere trifle, after it had long lain neglected in a garret, and had in part been demolished. The remainder he has incorporated with his own. The specimens are loose, with loose tickets.

Mr. De Lachenal was a great friend of Haller, and gave confiderable affistance to his great work. He is faid to have long been meditating a Flora Helvetica, according to the Linnæan fystem. His botanical library is one of the best I ever saw, and he was so kind as to present me with a copy of the first edition of Columna's *Phytobasanos*, that rare book which I had sought for through Italy in vain. His copy of Rivinus has the Orchideæ, though Haller's (he says) had sour plates more than his. Most copies sinish with the *Pyrolæ*.

Dr. Younge spared me the trouble of hunting for curious botanical books at Bâle, having taken that pains himself to no purpose. One crusty old fellow wondered he, should ask for such things there.

Sept. 12. The diligence for Strasburgh fet out at fix in the morning. We slept within one post of that place, and arrived there next day to breakfast.

Dr. Herman, Professor of Botany, received me very cordially, and we spent the first morning together in his museum. I have seldom conversed with a man of a more acute or more enlarged mind, to which his publications on zoology bear ample testimony. Nor was I less obliged to Professor Schurer, teacher of Natural Philosophy, the friend of Professor Oriani of Milan. His apparatus seemed very good.

The botanic garden here is among the best-furnished academical gardens, which are not generally the richest. Public affairs are not often so well conducted as private ones. Rich professors seldom have much zeal, and zealous ones often want money or encouragement. Ample sunds, extensive correspondence and interest, with a superintendant of unbounded zeal, activity, and knowledge, can alone make and keep up a good botanic garden.

Dr. Lawth, Professor of Anatomy at Strafburgh, is a man of ability, and has been in England.

Every body has heard of the cathedral of this town, and its spire, the highest in Europe. The structure of the latter is very light elegant Gothic, in perfect preservation, of a brownish stone, harder than marble. From its top, to which I ascended, is a very extensive view, but the surrounding country is shat and uninteresting. The inside of the church is large, but not handsome. Its sa-

mous old clock is much out of order; nor did I fee any of its puppet-shews. This church, like that of Antwerp, was originally intended to have two spires, but only one has been completed.

In the Protestant church of St. Thomas, the monument of Marechal Saxe is shewn to all travellers. This was executed by Pigale; it much excels his performance at Notre Dame for the Comte d'Harcourt, and would be regarded with admiration even in Italy. The figures are of white marble, as large as life. Death is fummoning the Marechal to the tomb; France strives in vain to retard his descent, and he marches intrepidly towards the yawning farcophagus, while Hercules, standing by, leans on his club in a mournful posture. I descended into the vault below, where his body, wrapped in lead, rests in a stone sarcophagus. This monument has not been finished many years. When it was first displayed to public view, the body was removed hither from fome other church with great pomp. The wall at the back was then hung with black, which perhaps had a better effect than the present ground of grey marble. Louis XV. wishing to honour this hero, as he deferved, with a splendid funeral, had no place in his dominions, except Strasburgh, where it could be done with propriety, the Marechal being a Protestant. In this town, by the peace of Ryswick in 1697, Protestants and Catholics obtained equal liberty, half the magistrates being always chosen of one religion, and half of the other. I was told they acted together in great harmony, and that religious animosity was not prevalent here. Pity but this calm had continued! but that could hardly be expected in the present agitation of political opinions around.

In a small room adjoining to the church of St. Thomas, are the embalmed bodies of several German noblemen, in handsome pewter cossins, with glass windows over the faces of two of them. They look black and hideous like mummies,

Sept. 15. I left Strasburgh in the Paris diligence; the price is four louis for an infide place, and the time employed in the journey five days and one night. My companions all the way were a French sculptor with

with his wife, young child, and dog; but we took up and fet down various perfons by the way, fome of them very entertaining. Among others we met with a nun of the respectable order of la Charité, already mentioned (vol. i. 142), whom I should have thought no less intelligent than amiable, but for one unlucky discovery. A genteel young officer of our party, who had been in England, and was very polite in his conversation respecting our country, endeavoured to give this nun a charitable opinion of us, though heretics. She heard him long with apparent pleafure, asking now and then some pertinent questions; but at length, "I thought," faid she, " all the people in those hot countries had been black." This curious and unexpected speech leading to farther explanations, we found the good woman really as ignorant of all that related to England, except that the people were heretics, as we are of the internal parts of Africa, and even more fo, for she had not the least idea of its fituation or distance. I have met with incredible inflances of bigotry and ignorance in my own beloved country, especially in London, London, and even among those who can read and write; but not quite equal to this. I cannot help remarking that such instances are often accompanied by great rectitude of intention, and, as in this nun, with much benevolence, where the infanity of prejudice does not interfere.

Our road lay through the elegant little town of Nancy, built by the deposed King of Poland, Stanislaus. It is exactly like a piece of scenery for a theatre, or a thing prepared on purpose for some public shew.

I called on Mr. Willemet an eminent apothecary, and his fon the Professor of Botany, who is now I believe physician to our great Indian adversary Tippoo. Here is an indifferent botanic garden, with a bust of King Stanislaus its founder, inscribed with the following pretty distich:

Nothing material occurred till our arrival at Paris on the evening of September 19.

<sup>&</sup>quot;Inter vitales herbas, fuccosque salubres,

<sup>&</sup>quot;Quam bene stat populo vita salusque sua."

## CHAP. XLII.

## PARIS IN RETURN.

ON returning to Paris, many things which I had either not feen at all, or feen in a hurry, demanded my attention; the pleasure of visiting them was doubled by the company of a beloved brother, to whom every thing here was new. I was surprised to find what rude shapeless masses the statues of Versailles appeared, how inaccurate their outlines, and how rugged their surfaces, to an eye just come from studying the antique. This difference is peculiarly shocking in the marble copies of celebrated statues. The antique Cincinnatus however, in the palace, atoned for all these.

In the apartments I observed some very excellent pictures. The gallery of Le Brun

is well known by the prints, and furely merits great praise as to composition, whatever we may think of the vain tyrant whom it was meant to flatter. This flattery is the more delicate, though perhaps the more forcible, for its being the history of Alexander which is here delineated, whose figure is every where the portrait of Louis XIV. He indeed was worthy in beauty of form, as well as in extravagance of mind, to perfonate "Macedonia's madman."

Vandyke's portrait of Charles I. is among his best works. Perhaps that at Hampton Court may be equal, if not superior, to it; but it is difficult to ascertain such a point by memory.

The death of St. Francis, by Annibal Carracci, struck me very much, as did a charming performance of Domenichino's remarkable for its lights. The subject I do not remember.

There were two very large pieces by Paul Veronese, and many other excellent pictures.

In the Queen's apartments, which were very rich, I observed a vase of gold, and another of lapis lazuli, presented to her Majesty

Majesty by the city of Paris on the birth of the Dauphin. The last-mentioned was one of the largest pieces of that stone ever known, though not of a fine colour. The King's bed-chamber contained a porphyry bust of Louis XIV. which must have cost infinite labour in working it, the stone being so very hard.

What is now become of all these treasures I know not. They are probably dispersed like those of the Garde Meuble in the Place de Louis XV. which used to be open to public inspection on the first Tuesday of every month, and contained a prodigious quantity of Gobelin tapestry, some after Alexander's battles by Le Brun, and some of filk interwoven with gold. There was also a great deal of curious armour; among other things the armour of Philip de Valois, Francis I. and Henry II. We fancied a little injury might be perceived in the part over the right eye of the latter, and thought this might possibly have been the armour he wore at the fatal tournament. The affemblage of vales of crystal, agate, and other precious stones, was one of the richest I have seen.

There

There were also some good antique and modern bronzes, and above all the precious Roman shield of silver, found in the Rhone, with all its sculpture in perfect preservation.

Of all these fine things, and, alas! of the noble monuments I have described at St. Denis, we can now only fay they were—the admirable statue of Henry IV. on the Pont Neuf, that too is no more! In lamenting their downfall, and the concomitant events, much as we may admire and venerate the arts when confecrated to virtue, it is not merely the destruction of such monuments that we deplore; it is the vast wreck of human happiness that engrosses " every pang of fympathy"-the innocent confounded with the guilty-the dispersion of familiesthe diffolution of the fweet bonds of focial intercourse. Even the chastisements of unbounded vice and depravity are become fo terrible, that we stand appalled at their irrefistible unrelenting feverity, even till compaffion arises for their abject victims. The world impatiently waits to fee Frenchmen atone for all this. If they finally obtain a good government, its greatest merit will be

that of rendering impossible for the future fuch actions as shall have led to its establishment.—But I mean not yet to enter on this subject. Some previous remarks on the French nation are necessary.

We visited the celebrated Orleans collection of pictures at the Palais Royal, the Flemish part of which have since been exhibited in London, and therefore need no description here. The St. John of Raphael I have already twice mentioned. The famous group of the Virgin fainting, by Annibal Carracci, is a diminished copy of part of the picture of Daniel de Volterra, at the Trinità dei Monti at Rome. This copy is very excellent, much superior in colouring to the original. A fine print of it is extant.

The 9th of October was the day of St. Denis, when every body flocked to the fair at the town which bears his name, and the relicks of the abbey were all exposed in pomp to the fight and veneration of the faithful. Among them appeared the head of the Saint in a rich case, and the nail of Christ's cross, likewise magnificently set. I believe one of these relicks is about as authentic as the other.

Vol. III, O Many

Many volumes have been written for and against the identity of this head; but it is so good a head to the monks, they must be the most soolish and perverse of all heretics to have any doubts concerning it, or not to labour all in their power to impress the people with their own salutary belief. All the chapels were set open this day, so that the monuments could be inspected at leisure.

Our return to Paris in the evening was a most curious spectacle, the great avenue being crowded with every fort of vehicle that can be conceived. The most general were carts with boards nailed across by way of seats, and the company was by no means silent. They seemed to emulate each other in straining their throats with all sorts of ribaldry.

On the 23d of October we were present at a very different scene at the English nunnery. A young lady from Cumberland that day took the veil. She had a year before made her profession, the manner of which ceremony I have described in speaking of Venice, vol. ii. 386. The taking the veil is the final irrevocable scene, which concludes

the existence, in a manner, of the fair victim as a member of society. By it she becomes dead to the world. The monastery is her tomb, and this awful ceremony the celebration of her funeral. Every part of it is contrived to impress this idea. She is after a while extended on the cold ground, wrapped in a large slowing robe of black, and folds a crucifix to her breast. In the mean time the music and the service are suited to so solven an exhibition. No wonder that most of the spectators were in tears, and that some ladies of her acquaintance were almost too much affected to stay in the church.

We obtained admission to this curious and affecting spectacle by the favour of a nun of this monastery, to whom I had a letter from one of my most worthy friends of the Catholic persuasion in England. I had often been used, during my first stay in Paris, to visit this lady, and was on such occasions admitted to a little parlour, furnished on one side with a grate, very closely barred, and a cylindrical turning box, in an opening of which the good nun used to place my tea,

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and

and then turn it round fo that I could take it out on the other fide. By this contrivance Ibelieve it would have been impossible for my facrilegious touch to have profaned even her finger; and the bars of the grate were not only fo close, but fo thick, that I do not believe the lips of any nun in the community could have been fufficiently protruded to have reached mine, should any one have been charitably disposed to fraternize me. Such calculations, I cannot but confess, now and then came across my mind; for what is the effect of foolish and absurd restraint, but to excite ideas and wishes hostile to its intentions? I was more frequently induced feriously to lament those prejudices, and that mistaken piety, which lead to unprofitable mortification rather than to virtue; for virtue is the useful exercise of our powers in fociety, not " laying by our talents in a napkin." These English nuns indeed are more usefully employed than most others, their convent being a place of education, a fort of boarding and day-school for girls, with whose relations and friends they have much intercourfe; and I always found my fair recluse better

better informed of the news of the day than most people who range the world at liberty, as every body tells every thing to those who cannot go out. Yet on the other hand even this must tend to keep up an interest in the world they have renounced, though not perhaps equal to that excited by the impressions of memory on the young and feeling mind, so beautifully described by a recent poet.

"The beauteous maid, that bids the world adieu, Oft of that world will fnatch a fond review; Oft at the shrine neglect her beads, to trace Some focial scene, some dear familiar face, Forgot when first a father's stern controul Chas'd the gay visions of her opening foul; And ere, with iron tongue, the vefper-bell Bursts thro' the cypress-walk, the convent-cell, Oft will her warm and wayward heart revive, To love and joy still tremblingly alive; The whifper'd vow, the chafte carefs prolong, Weave the light dance, and fwell the choral fong; With rapt ear drink the enchanting ferenade, And, as it melts along the moonlight-glade, To each foft note return as foft a figh, And bless the youth that bids her slumbers fly." Rogers's Pleasures of Memory, part ii. ver. 27-42. I cannot withhold the next four lines on account of the exquisite simile at their conclusion.

"But not till time has calm'd the ruffled breaft,
Are these fond dreams of happiness confest.
Not till the rushing winds forget to rave,
Is heav'n's sweet smile reslected on the wave."

Ibid. ver. 43—46.

Concerning botany I have little to fay in my fecond refidence at Paris. I was often employed with Tournefort's herbarium, and with looking over the acquisitions of my friend Desfontaines in Barbary. I faw in full flower at Mr. Cels's, the Lawsonia inermis, seeds of which were brought by the last mentioned gentleman. It is highly fragrant, in form resembling a Malpighia, but of a pale buff-colour. The plant is now I believe lost.

An elegant Peruvian shrub was shewn me in the Jardin du Roi, which Professor Jacquin and Mr. Curtis have since sigured by the name of *Celsia linearis*, though, as the latter remarks, it very ill accords with that genus. The plant is in fact an *Hemimeris*; and as we

now have it in our gardens, the following character and fynonyms may not be unacceptable.

HEMIMERIS linearis.

H. didynama, foliis linearibus subserratis. Celsia linearis. Facq. Coll. v. 2. 270. lc. rar. v. 2. Curt. Mag. t. 210.

This, like some other Peruvian plants, as Verbena triphylla of L'Heritier and Fuchsia coccinea Hort. Kew. has generally ternate leaves, though in the Fuchsia they seem most naturally to be opposite only.

It was curious to remark in the fummer of 1786, a very prevalent fashion of wearing one solitary carnation, of an uniform pale red, close stuck in the button-hole, in the place of the ribbon of St. Louis, which these showers exactly resembled in colour, and might at a distance be mistaken for it. Although I may incur censure for charging even French vanity with such a foible, I cannot help believing the imitation was designed. A Frenchman might retaliate upon me by noticing a similar sashion, very common in London not long ago, of encircling the coats of arms upon carriages with an orna-

ment looking as like a garter as it dared, and this was more particularly practifed by those who were farthest removed from all possible chance of a real garter. Human nature is every where much the same.

Paris began at this feafon to grow very dirty and disagreeable, on account of the almost perpetual wet. The want of footways in fo large a town is a glaring defect; in consequence of it the general style of walking about Paris in dirty weather is only stepping from one great slippery stone to another, and perhaps fliding into the ditches of mud between. To these comforts may be added the perpetual danger of being run over by all forts of carriages, rattling and whirling along without either fear or dexterity in their drivers. In no respect is this nation more awkward than in all the tackle belonging to carriages. Their rope harnesses, and clumfy yokes, are fo unmanageable, it is impossible to drive their carts and waggons with any accuracy; and their prepofterous axletrees, projecting half a yard farther on each fide than they ought, feein purposely calculated to take hold of all the posts they

can find, or, like the faulchions of the warchariots of old, to fweep down every living being that comes in their way.

No wonder then accidents were fo frequent. To be run over might be reckoned a fort of natural death in Paris. I have heard that about 100 persons generally made this kind of exit every year. Many a time, as I have fhrunk into a corner to avoid these formidable axletrees, have I thought of the fate of poor Tournefort, who was crushed by one of them fo feverely, that he acquired a spitting of blood, which in time proved fatal. I faw no figns of their being more inclined to spare one botanist than another; and when I happened to be in a carriage, I felt little less apprehension for those who were then at the mercy of my wheels. For not being one of the noblesse, those refined ornaments of fociety, I could not drive through a crowd careless whether it were age or infancy that might be crushed in my progress. It is incredible what a happy tranquillity perfons of any figure had acquired on this fubject. I have actually seen a poor old man run over by a gentleman's carriage with the most

most wanton carelessiness on the part of the coachman. Not being able to restrain the indignation natural to an Englishman, "Why," said I, " is not the carriage stopped, and the sellow secured?" A shrug and a stare were the only answer. "Was it not the fault of the coachman?" "Assurement. C'est la voiture de quelque seigneur!"

No one that has not been in France can imagine how far this aristocratic influence extended. The liveried slaves of a person of the least rank or figure, might behave with any degree of insolence to the most respectable tradesman; nor were blows even to be always resented.

If a well-dreffed person in England has occasion to enquire his way, or to ask any other question, of a sentinel, he thinks he pays him sufficient respect in treating him as a sellow-citizen, and calling him friend. In France none of these gentlemen were ever addressed without Monsieur and a respectful bow, and it was then ten to one whether or not Monsieur would deign to return a civil answer.

But above all did the tyranny of the higher powers

powers shine out in its native glory with respect to game. Not to mention innumerable inflances befides, I remember taking a walk with a friend and his family out of the gates one evening, in a place about as much trodden as the most public part of Hyde Park, or St. George's fields before they were fo much covered with buildings. A fellow in rags, without any infignia of office, though with all the insolence of it, came up to my friend and told him he must not walk on the grass. "Why not?" Because of the King's game. " There can be no game of any kind here, nor within fight, and every body does walk here." This fignified nothing; and as we could not tell but this might be a game-keeper, though he might possibly be only a ruffian, who not daring to attack and rob fo many of us, gratified his fpleen by this pretence to interrupt our recreation, we were obliged to comply; elfe we might have had a chance of being lodged in the Bicêtre, or some other of the "King's castles at Paris;" not till our case had been fairly judged, but till we had made interest with some great man to get us out,

by as little attention to law as we had been got in. None but poor unknown villains, unconnected with greater ones, ever suffered from so obsolete a thing as the law.

In walking over the Prince of Condé's grounds at Chantilly, with the person appointed to shew them, we came to a very low wall, with a little wicket which was locked. After waiting fome time, and calling to no purpose, I proposed stepping over the wall, which was not three feet high; but our guide started with horror, and told me I should certainly be shot by the gamekeeper. I inquired whether my appearance as an English traveller, this man's presence, and the errand we were evidently come on' to fee the grounds, would not protect me. He answered in the negative; which the game-keeper, when he came, very feriously and positively confirmed.

The infolent airs of all these servants and hangers-on exceeded imagination, but they were proportionably servile to all who they had reason to think had any interest with their lords. Not that they were capable of the manly attention, the generous re-

fpectful benevolence, which beams from the countenances of honest English domestics, on all those whom they know to be valued by their good master; the cringing of a Parisian was ever precisely the same in all ranks, from a shoe-black on the Pont neuf to a Duke in the drawing-room.

The most truly respectable people, as Mercier well observes in his Tableau de Paris, were those of the middle ranks of life, people of trade or professions. Among these was to be found a great deal of principle, and much domestic felicity, with some share of information. This rank was the most free from the general spirit of artifice and chicanery which made a striking part of the Parisian character. But it must be confessed that among this order of men originated that spirit of enquiry and judgment, and the consequent indignation, that have led to the wonderful convultions which now engage the attention of Europe, and which have run to the lengths they have, in confequence of the lowest orders of society not being proportionably informed or virtuous. I cannot help offering a few remarks on the **fubject**  fubject of this great revolution, though with that diffidence which forunexampled a phænomenon requires; more especially as I conceive spectators, and still less the parties concerned, are by no means cool or disinterested enough at present to judge it accurately or impartially.

I was furprifed, on being introduced into various Parisian circles in 1786, to hear much unreferved political talk, and that of a nature which I had supposed would infallibly lead to the Bastile. Its prevailing tenour was, that neither the finances nor the authority of government could long be supported; that the people would not long bear the excessive taxes and exceffive oppression under which they groaned; and that the French in general were ardently defirous, and ftrongly flattered themselves with the hopes of being, in a very few years, governed as we are. This was the conversation of people of consideration and property, even connected with the court, and shining in the elevated walks of life. The prevailing fentiments of most ranks were much in favour of the English, as the wonderful adoption of our taftes and fashions

fashions of late years, and the avidity with which our publications were read, abundantly evince. I conceive the works of Mr. Mercier, especially his Tableau de Paris, have contributed to the prevalence of these sentiments more than most books,

In October 1787, the public fentiments began to be greatly agitated. The banishment of the Parliament of Toulouse was much talked of; and when people's tongues were once let loofe, they began with one accord to hunt out all persons suspected of being spies of government, and to treat them with just indignity. One of these people being in the Caffé de Chartres leaning his head and arms on a marble table, was known to a gentleman, who believed him to be liftening to the conversation of the place, and without any ceremony gave him a violent blow on the back-of his head, which drove his nose against the table, and fent him bleeding out of the room. The company starting with furprise and indignation, the person who gave the blow coolly faid, " Ce n'eft qu'une mouche." It is but a fly. Alluding to the term mouchard, by which fuch people

were distinguished, from their manner of blowing the nose as a signal to each other. Upon this the company were perfectly satisfied, and the poor mouchard never returned.

Such occurrences however were but trifles compared with what happened in the next and the following years. Those events it would be fuperfluous to detail. Their great features are fufficiently well known, though a little distorted one way or other by party misrepresentation. They exhibit, I conceive, in the beginning, one of the noblest spectacles the world ever beheld. A great, rich, and powerful people, bursting indignant from their long-oppressive chains, with a fincere defire to learn to be what God and Nature intended they should be. Such I doubt not was their prevailing impulse, and such, I will still farther venture to fay, was the aim of the first leaders of this vast undertaking. I am authorifed to think fo by the almost unanimous declarations of better judges than myfelf, who now fay, that if the French had contented themselves with the constitution they first established, nobody could have objected to it, as they had an undoubted right

to amend a government which wanted it so much as their old one did. Such persons indeed did not make this declaration in 1789 or 1790. They inveighed then against every thing that was doing in France, as much as they do against all the succeeding horrors. But I speak of their judgment, not of their consistency.

A much more respectable set of politicians think the French revolution is nothing more than the result of the schemes of a set of designing men, who for the last thirty years have been deliberately undermining all principle whatever; first preaching fine-spun fystems of morality and sentiment; then gently infinuating that fuch fystems wanted not the aid of religion, or at least of revelation; and in the end finally aiming to overturn all fubordination, all regular government, and it feems all regular fociety, along with every thing mankind had hitherto held most facred. Accordingly the ingenious perfonage who faid in a public affembly "there is no God," was a legitimate defcendant of others who had fome time before faid it "in their hearts." Heaven knows Vol. III. how how many pretended philosophers may have come under this description! but Heaven forbid that all who have endeavoured to instruct mankind, and who have notwithstanding been mistaken in some points, should be branded with it! Those who live in a country of free discussion, under a tolerant and rational religion, can form but inadequate conceptions of the indignant struggles of a manly and honest mind, labouring to shake off shackles rivetted on in early youth, whose mischiefs are interwoven with all the private vices, and all the public abuses continually before his eyes. Who shall fay for himself he could in fuch circumstances discriminate truth from the multiplicity of falsehood fo artfully connected with it? Who could trust his mind, when so misled from the beginning, to perceive and to love truth itself when discovered? It furely becomes the friends of true christian piety to have great indulgence for those who have not been favoured with candid rational instruction, like themfelves perhaps, but on the contrary have always been furrounded with perfons evidently imposing upon others more than their own

hearts

hearts believed, while their manners difcredited every thing they pretended to reverence. The most honest and sagacious enquirer might not always be able to avoid such "flumbling-blocks." A sincere lover of truth, firm in his own principles, will respect those who honestly seek it, whether they meet his conclusions or not.

It is hard and unchristian, therefore, to suppose that all who have opposed and satirized corrupt religions and corrupt governments are enemies to true and good ones; nor can one, in that point of view, clearly fee what end these subverters of established opinions proposed to themselves. Not profit nor worldly honour, for these lay in a contrary path. The love of fingularity is faid to have been their aim; yet their opinions were in general too prevalent to be called fingular. It is rational to imagine their efforts would not have fucceeded, had they not attacked what was in many points weak; and as to their motives, those might be various in purity, it is not for us to judge them. Happy would it have been if the parties attacked had disarmed their adversaries, by adopting P 2 their

their advice when good, and refuting it when erroneous! It is ftrange nobody has yet tried fuch an experiment any where for preferving peace and good order!

A most remarkable feature in the present revolution is that change from fulfome loyalty in the French nation, to the most ferocious antipathy to their fovereign; but I believe this change is more apparent than real. This -people originally loved their kings; and the national loyalty, along with its pride, was 'carried to a degree of enthusiasm under Louis XIV. But as it is not in our nature to love what has nothing amiable about it, the title of well-beloved given to Louis XV. was little more than "mouth honour," like the title of just given to the paltry Louis XIII. because he was born under the sign of Libra, the balance; and the one nick-name was as wife as the other. The profligacy of the court under Louis XV. far exceeded that of his predecessor; and while the purses of his -people were drained to fupply his extravagance, and their families ranfacked for new victims to his luft, fuch a father of his people might be feared, but not loved. Not even

the "Corinthian pillars of the polished fociety" of which he was the head, found it. very easy to be the pandars of his Sacred Majesty, though that was a principal road to honour. His fated appetite required almost every day a fresh supply; and the famous Madame du B\*\*\*\* is faid to have fecured the duration of her dominion, folely by affuming, or rather practifing, at her introduction, the direct contrary behaviour to virgin delicacy and referve. All the courtly: pimps were aftonished to find themselves week after week, and month after month, destitute of employment, and were obliged to lay afide their old trade to pay their devotions to the favourite fultana. I have these particulars from very high authority. Other private anecdotes respecting this prince's reign were whifpered to me at Paris, for the truth of which I can by no means vouch, and indeed they bear an internal evidence of falsehood, but they will the more fully shew his title of well-beloved was not without exceptions.

The attempt of Damien on the life of this King is reported to have been the contri-

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vance

phin; and in consequence, when the plot (some years after) was discovered, the Queen, with the Dauphin and Dauphiness, were all secretly taken off; and such it is faid was the savage and impolitic vengeance of Louis XV. that he even wished to have destroyed their children, but was dissuaded from it.

Now, in the first place, the attempt of Damien was made in 1757: the Dauphin died in December 1765, his Confort fifteen months afterwards, and the Queen not till June 1768. Why was the most guilty, as fhe is pretended to have been, fuffered to live the longest? and why any of the parties fo'long? For what reason were the innocent children to have been involved in the punishment; and is it not contrary to all example for the supposed tyrant to have wished the extinction of his own race? From the accounts upon record of the Dauphin's illness and death, he evidently appears to have died of a pulmonary confumption, and it is no less apparent that the Dauphiness (a most exemplary princess) caught his disorder by too close an attendance upon him. In short, the whole story is evidently a malignant forgery; nor should I have noticed it but for its curiosity, though I have heard it related with additional circumstances, by persons who ought to have known better. It serves to shew that the most arbitrary power, armed with tortures and bastiles, cannot silence its enemies, but rather aggravates their malice. The character and the person of a king are much more safe in a country where every little discontent sinds vent in a venal newspaper or a caricature print, and which, if unjust, widely counteracts its own aims.

The unfortunate Louis XVI. one of the best-meaning princes that ever sat on the throne of France, or any other, was welcomed on his accession as all princes are; for the people are always fond of a new sovereign, expecting he should be free from any failings his predecessor might have had, and never dreaming that he may have other and worse saults. In this case however they would not have been disappointed, had he been blest with abilities to execute his good

P 4

intentions,

intentions, or rather had not domestic chagrin led him into habits fatal to the employment of the abilities he possessed. I have heard it afferted, before this revolution began, that Louis XVI. was by no means a weak man; an affertion which his last behaviour furely has amply verified. But what could his fpotless example alone do to reform the manners of a court, already almost past reformation, while firen pleafure and lavish profuseness, under a most attractive form, led the too willing crowd a contrary way! The benevolent monarch, and the too partial husband, refigned himself to indolence, and tried to find comfort in apathy, from which however he was occasionally roused by infult or neglect. The readiness with which he listened to a scheme of reform, shewed how uneafy he was at the state of his government. Had he but been a Stanislaus, to have joined wifdom and firmness with rectitude, he would neither have deferted his honour and his people, nor they perhaps have disappointed him! Interested and ferocious parties would in vain have tried to turn the popular tide against him, had he not, at so critical

critical a period, been induced, by evil counfellors, to forfeit the confidence of his fubjects, and separate their interest from his own. But how dearly has he paid for the guilt and folly of others! How dearly has the partner of his fate paid for her faults, let them have been what they would! May the errors of this most wretched princess be remembered only as a warning; and may her fufferings have corrected and atoned for them! Of her political faults, during her prosperity, I presume not to form an idea; for who could dive into the intricacies of one of the most intriguing of all courts? Her subsequent conduct, her plots as they are called, her treason against her oppressors, none that can put themselves in her situation will wender at or blame. Her private faults I will not palliate. They were but too well known when the was in a fituation that might be supposed out of the reach of all justice, except the divine; but they will not fail now to be blackened, no doubt, where that can be done. Let it however be remembered, that the state prisons revealed no fecrets to the dishonour of this unfortunate

Queen,

Queen, no victims of her jealoufy or refentment, though they were often filled with those of the worthless mistresses of former kings. The canting Madame Maintenon fpared no pains to entrap and to confine for life a Dutch bookfeller who had exposed her character; but Marie Antoinette took not the least vengeance of the most abusive things written and published by persons within her own power. I had given me at Paris a fong, composed and even publicly fung on the birth of the first Dauphin, the licence of which is beyond imagination; nor is it indeed fit to be read. I judge it as I do the above-mentioned report about Louis XV. Its malignity is a proof of its falsehood.

The French appear to have a great many faults of their own to purge off, before they are capable of fettling into a well-regulated state—faults which I am ready to allow in a great measure originated from their former bad government. It has of late been a favourite idea, borrowed from one of their fatirists, that a Frenchman is like an animal begotten between a monkey and a tyger. If this illiberal reslection were just, could it be expected

expected that fuch an animal, having been long chained up, goaded, and half-starved. should not be a little unruly when he had broke from his confinement? nor would the goaders deserve a great deal of pity if they felt his fangs. His wounds indeed are dreadful, and no wonder honest John Bull is easily made to believe him as bad as a fiery dragon, and to brandish his horns a little in his own defence; but when he shall find this monster keeps at home, and has perhaps chafed and fretted himself asleep, or, which is rather to be hoped, has lain down quietly, desiring only to eat and drink in peace without a chain, his own generous nature will furely not grudge fuch comforts, even to his pretended " natural enemy," but will rather regret that the poor animal has found himfelf obliged to take fo much trouble to obtain them. He may also thankfully learn from this example, to eat his own grass in quiet, without running at any body that does not offend him, but to beware of a chain, even though it were of filk or gold.

To drop allegory, let us, as I have unawares been led fo far into this fubject, con-

fider

fider a little the applications to be made from it. I have always wondered at those who made the case of the French so much our own, whether they thought our governmentwanted a reform, or not. It feems more' peculiarly injudicious in the latter class to have done fo, as the necessity for the French to amend their condition was undoubted, and we had long held them in contempt for not attempting it. Exclamations of danger to ourselves from their attempt (so long as they kept to their own affairs) implied therefore a conscious weakness and error at home. On the contrary, I believe some of the first Englishmen who exulted with manly openness at the beginning of the French revolution, never thought of any dangerous application here till it had been made for them; and when that application was made, all the really turbulent and defigning spirits were glad to shelter themselves under such refpectable banners, while the truly good and honest bore all the odium, and their enemies gladly took advantage of it. A bellua multorum capitum, a "fwinish multitude" of all ranks, is always ready at hand to be directed

by one party or another, now against Catholics, now against Dissenters, according as it may happen to suit the politics of the day.

I conceive the public mind might have been with more certainty kept quiet from the beginning by temperate intelligible publications, commending the zeal of our neighbours for liberty, and encouraging the hope that by their obtaining a rational government like ours, instead of the tyrannical and intriguing one they had before, a lasting alliance might originate between us, without fear of those bloody wars, in which so many human beings have been facrificed at the whim of a favourite or a courtezan, and without the bulk of either nation knowing why they were undertaken. If alarms had arisen at home, it might have been suggested that we had already gone through what the French wanted, a revolution in government and a reformation in religion; and whether we had reached perfection or not, prudence required waiting at least till our neighbour excelled us. When that vigorous step was fet, of abolishing all nobility, instead of childish declamation and lamentations, it would

would have been more to the purpose to have shewn what the French nobility as a body really were, how infinitely numerous, how abfurdly privileged, how proud, idle, and diffipated; furely it was a great injustice to our own nobility, who are legislators, or a determinate part of the government, to confound them with those of France! Whatever the latter might have been originally, they had long loft all beneficial powers and privileges, for which the court had compenfated them, at the expence of the nation, by allowing them all manner of noxious ones, fuch as no manly rational people ought to bear. On this subject I cannot refer to better authority than Mr. Arthur Young's Travels, to prove the mischief of these privileges relative to the important article of agriculture.

As to the order of nobility, in itself abftractedly considered, much may be said for and against it. When it has no pernicious powers, independent of those great laws of a state, by which even sovereigns are bound, it has many advantages. It is an economical way of rewarding merit, and its very existence existence as a thing of value depends upon its not being made cheap. It is at its own peril too that it debases itself by any means, and the main interest of the whole order jointly and separately consists in its members not disgracing their rank. I speak of nobility now as a thing whose sole value depends on opinion, as mere titles. When exemptions from law are connected with these, the case becomes different.

Disputes about forms of government too are endless. Some are undoubtedly bad, as an absolute monarchy; but that a limited one should therefore be bad, is very far from the truth. At first fight an hereditary menarchy of any kind appears ineligible, and perhaps fo much fo, that human reason might never have contrived it. On this ground it has been cavilled at, and the cavillers anfwered over and over again; for it is a fufficient answer that this plan is found to be attended with fewer inconveniences in practice, than many others more specious in appearance. Upon these subjects thinking men may speculate, and their discussions be as free as air, that the world may profit, as

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it always must, by the exercise of reason. It ill becomes those who differ in opinion to descend to the illiberality of fanatics, and call one another names. Neither is it adviseable for them to force their experiments upon mankind. Rational beings should be guided by reason. When a new government is recommended, or an old one defended, let the arguments be laid down plainly and fairly, void of all declamation, fatire, or wit. The one scheme is not to be tried because it is new, nor the other retained because, it is old; but if the former be evidently much better than the existing state of things, and therefore would compensate for the great difficulty and trouble of a change, then alone could it deferve any attention; or if, on the contrary, the old establishment should appear to answer its purpose well, or to be capable of amending itfelf, the hazard of supplanting it by another is by no means adviseable.

A few plain fober confiderations of the above complexion, free from all political cant, fuperfittion, party aggravations, and interested deceptions, would, I am persuaded,

have kept old England perfectly fafe from the beginning, without having recourse to dangerous palliatives, such as raising a horror of innovation, and opposing the rage of party against party, and sect against sect, which have so often been tried with such very bad and even fatal success. And well they may, for they are only making use of the follies of mankind. What a reproach is it upon our species that we so often address ourselves to these follies, rather than to our nobler faculties and principles!

I little thought I should ever have written so much upon any political subject; for the small benefit I have always perceived to be derived to the wisdom, happiness, or honesty, of those who interest themselves much in these matters, has rather deterred me from the study of partial politics. The general great interests of truth and humanity are indeed a worthy and exalting enquiry. History, as it serves to develope these, is a noble study; and a good man may in some measure be indemnished for sullying his mind with the contemplation of court in-Vol. III.

trigues, and wearying his patience with the fquabbles of heroes, to learn why all his fellow creatures are not happy, and how they may have a chance of becoming so, even in spite of their own mistaken endeavours.

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## CHAP. XLIII.

FROM PARIS TO, AMIENS, BOULOGNE, DOVER, CANTERBURY AND LONDON.

Oct. 29. I IRED with the dirt of Paris, and fatiated with the humours of the Palais Royal, the fireworks of the Sieur Ruggeri, the operas, and all the other very fine things which make Paris fo delightful to a Frenchman, and fo entertaining at first fight to an Englishman, we had for some time begun to turn our thoughts homeward, and this morning early we set out post in a cabriolet towards England.

As I have mentioned the French opera, and few persons would at this moment like to go to Paris to see it, I beg leave to assure those who do not know what it is, that they may get a very tolerable idea if they will but take the trouble of seeing the farce of

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the *Prize* at the Haymarket. Storace's fong is fearcely a caricature.

We dined at Chantilly. The lawn towards the Prince of Condé's is much overrun with *Euphorbia Cypariss*. Slept at the Ange couronnée at Breteuil, where we were ill-served, not very civilly treated, and yet, as the French say, *ecorchés*.

Oct. 30. Breakfasted at Amiens, a considerable town, which makes a fine appearance on the side towards Paris. Its lofty Gothic cathedral rises above the rest of the buildings, and is a noble pile; but surely inferior to many of our English ones in magnificence and elegance, though it resembles them in style, having in fact been built by the English.

At Bernay we found a most neat and comfortable little inn. On this road, it seems, the inns of a second rank in appearance are much the most comfortable for travellers of the sober fort.

Oct. 31. We set out very early, hoping

to have faved the tide this day at Boulogne, but were disappointed.

Nov. 1. Another disappointment. Having passed our baggage at the Custom-house, the weather proved unfavourable. In vain did we feek for amusement in ransacking our inn for chess-boards, books, or any other refource. I was fo much out of humour, I disdained to go church-hunting; but my brother, who had feen fewer churches than I had, practifed that diversion, as he said, with fome fuccess, which those who shall hereafter be detained at Boulogne may be glad to know, if the wicked Frenchmen leave a church any where standing to thank God in for a peace, and provided they have " grace enough," as Dr. Johnson fays, " to thank God for any thing."

Nov. 2. The failors having tantalized us with their hopes, fears, and prognostications as usual, at last came after dinner to say the wind was fair. We joyfully went on board the packet. The wind was fair indeed, being nearly south, but so high, that we were

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blown over to Dover, full thirty miles, in two hours and three-quarters. This favourable gale for us was in reality the beginning of a violent storm, in which great part of the Duke of Gloucester's baggage was lost off the coast of Portugal, I believe, in coming from Italy.

As the agitation of the vessel was considerable, and we had many fresh-water failors on board, feveral ludicrous fcenes occurred. The company was at first very chatty and in good spirits; but after some time, a general filence enfued, which proved but the forerunner of a very different kind of fociability. Then as fymptoms of fickness prevailed or fubfided, apprehensions of danger rose and fell; the wind was sometimes thought higher and higher, and the failors were often supposed to be exerting themfelves to fave our lives .-- "Oh, fifter!" faid a lady in one of her more tranquil intervals, " what did you do with the bundle?" "Good Lord," replied the other, "what is the bundle to us that are all lost!"-" Dear Sir," exclaimed another lady, to one of the few gentlemen who happened just then

then to be neither fick nor laughing, "what is it that you heard the failors fay last?" "Indeed, Madam," replied he, "the last thing I heard them consulting about, was what they should have for supper at Dover." "Oh, Sir!" rejoined the lady, "don't deceive us! pray let us have time to prepare our poor souls!"

While this conversation, and more such: was paffing, a young French-woman prefent, who understood not a word of English, became truly an object of pity; for though fhe was reasonable enough to perceive there could not be a shadow of danger, the apprehensions so prettily acted by my fair country-women, really alarmed her. I found the fame good-natured gentleman, who had tried to pacify the other lady, in vain attempting to explain matters to her. He had been many months travelling about France; and had actually refided fome time in the fouthern provinces; without learning a word of French. All he could fay to the poor frightened damsel, was "point danger, Madam, point danger." Which being spoken as English, she either did not understand,

or elfe, having no farther explanation of the apparent terror around her, did not believe. When the real state of the case was explained to her, she felt herself as much at a loss to comprehend why people should wilfully frighten themselves without reason. But before so long an explanation as that question required could take place, all apprehensions, both real and sictious, vanished on our finding ourselves in the harbour of Dover.

It is really worth while to go abroad for fome time for the pleafure of coming home again. To hear every body talking English; to walk on boarded floors, without wading through-I will not fay what; to be waited on by maid-fervants, the general want of which abroad must really be a most uncomfortable circumstance to female travellers—these and numberless other little particulars, forgotten during abfence, recall domestic ideas, and have a wonderful effect on the spirits. On the contrary, the new and ftrange appearance of every thing when one first enters a foreign country, gives, to a perfon whose curiosity is not very much on tiptoe, those forlorn fensations that a child has

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when left by its mother among strangers; few people so entirely lay aside their child-hood as to be insensible to such impressions.

Human felicity however is never without alloy. Left Englishmen should be too happy in coming home to their dear country, it is wifely, I prefume, ordained that its coasts should be furnished with a valuable and respectable set of persons called custom-house officers, whose duty it is to moderate the joy as well as the worldly affluence of all those that come in their way. What our fair companions in the veffel did with their bundle I know not, for it feemed to be of confiderable dimensions; and they were both in bulk themselves so considerable by nature, that they could hardly pass it off as a part of their own persons, without the addition appearing incredible, as pads were not then in fashion. For my own part I had nothing I wished to conceal, except the holy trinkets of Loretto, being uncertain whether they were prohibited or not. They had generally travelled all the way from the holy house in my coat pocket, only occasionally retiring, in case of any violent alarm, to quarters of greater fafety, as his Holiness when frightened takes refuge in the castle of St. Angelo. They certainly were in no danger from the heretical custom-house officers of England.

As to my trunks and baggage, I disdained the pettisogging spirit of sinuggling any thing for the pleasure of doing so, and therefore submitted all my property to the inspection of his Majesty's faithful servants, in hope that they would be graciously pleased to release me forthwith. But I did not recollect what great personages I had to deal with. That evening nothing could be done; so we behoved, as they say in Scotland, to take up our abode at Dover for the night.

Nov. 3. Although it really did not require half an hour to transact our business, we could not get released till noon; we were therefore obliged to dine at Canterbury, and to sleep at Rochester.

On fome trees by a fmall folitary inn between Dover and Canterbury, where we flopped to water our horses, I had the good luck of gathering a beautiful new *Hypnum*,

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which my good friend Mr. Dickson has been pleased to name *H. Smithii*. It was not in fructification, and might easily have been overlooked, had I not already found it repeatedly at Genoa and Florence in perfection.

The cathedral of Canterbury is much fuperior in fize and beauty to that of Amiens, and indeed to most in England. The place where the rich shrine of St. Thomas à Becket once stood is still shewn. It is said pilgrimages are sometimes made from the Continent to this spot. I know the shrine of Edward the Confessor, in Westminster Abbey, is often visited from motives of devotion.

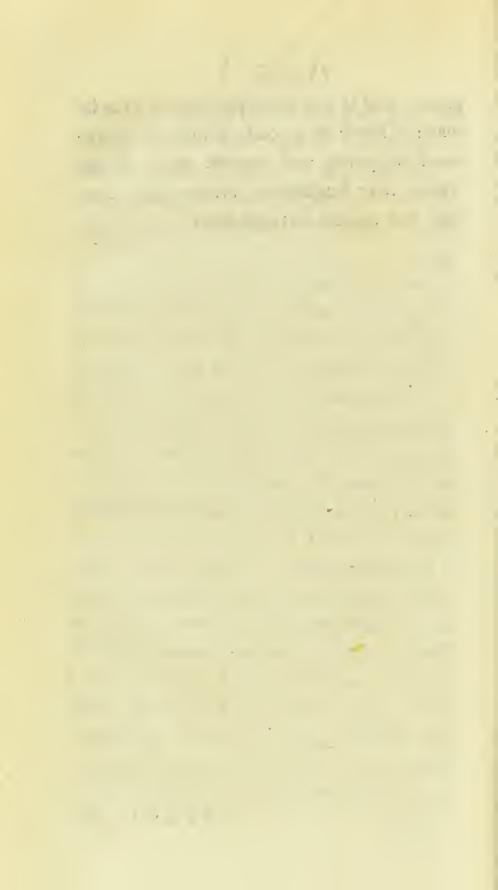
I contemplated with more veneration the maufoleum of the great and amiable Edward, called the Black Prince, and not without interest the plain unadorned tombs of Cardinal Pole and Archbishop Langton.

While I was examining these monuments, afternoon prayers were beginning, and I received an admonition from the verger, to the propriety of which I could not but affent,

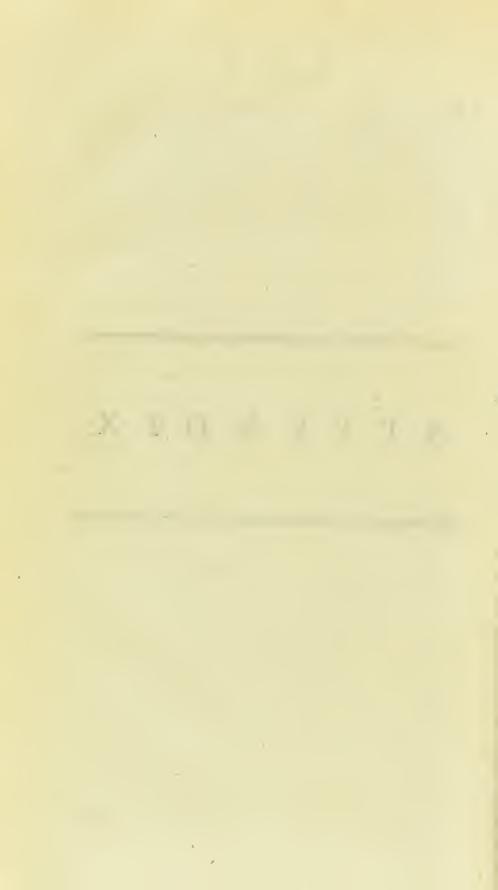
fent, however disused to attend to such decorum since I lest England. In Catholic countries nobody thinks of any such thing; and indeed as twenty different services are often going on at once in the same church, some beginning, while others are ending, no one person can be supposed to attend to them all; besides, it is a part of the prosit of the churches for strangers to visit their curiosities, and it is their interest that they should find all possible accommodation.

But let us have done with Catholic churches and ceremonies, curious and entertaining as they are, and novel (thank Heaven and our forefathers) to an Englishman of the present day. Who can approach London without being struck with the nobler object of a great industrious and flourishing nation, made up of people of all persuasions, none of whom would authority dare to molest (could it ever be foolish enough to wish it), unless bigotry and intolerance begin with themselves. May they long continue so and may each order of the community know their own best interest, and live at

peace; and if any attempts should ever be made at home or abroad, hostile to the general happiness and greatest good of the whole, may Englishmen always have courage and wisdom to repel them!



## APPENDIX,



# APPENDIX.

An enumeration of the guide-books and local publications which I have used, arranged in the order of the Tour. To which is added, an account of some of the general works on Italy which have fallen in my way, disposed in alphabetical order.

Amsterdam. Le guide ou nouvelle defeription d'Amsterdam, &c. avec une description de sa belle Maison de Ville. Covens & Mortier. Amsterdam. 1772. 8vo. 332 pages. Several plates.

This is an uncommonly complete and intelligent guide-book, containing indications Vol. III. R of

of every thing curious; copies and translations of inscriptions; the history of every principal edifice, as well as its description; and all sorts of information about streets, charges, usages and accommodations.

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Description of the City House of Amsterdam. P. Mortier. Amsterdam. 1782. 12mo. 98 pages.

A ridiculously bad English translation of the account of the Stadt house in the last-mentioned book.

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Antwerp. Description des principaux ouvrages de peinture & sculpture, actuellement existans dans les eglises, couvents & lieux publics de la Ville d'Anvers. Berbie. Antwerp. 12mo. 103 pages.

A mere enumeration of pictures and other works of art, so far tolerably complete.

BRUSSELS.

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BRUSSELS. Description de la Ville de Bruxelles, ou l'état présent, tant ecclésiastique que civil, de cette ville. Par M. l'Abbé Mann. Lemaire. Brussels. 1785. 8vo. 238 pages, with a view and plan.

The name of the author is a fufficient recommendation of this work. Its arrangement is alphabetical, with a feparate enumeration of the curiofities of the town, according to their fituation. There is another work by the same hand on the history of Bruffels.

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PARIS. Description des curiosités des eglises de Paris & des environs. Gueffier. Paris. 1759. 8vo. 365 pages.

This is a tolerable historical catalogue, but encumbered with much monkish trash. QQQQQQQQQQQ

Histoire de l'Abbaye royale de Saint Denis en France, par Dom. Michel Felibien, Religieux Bénédictin de la Congregation de St. Maur. Leonard. Paris. 1706. Folio. 815 pages. Several plates.

A splendid history of this samous abbey, with a detail of all its politics from the beginning. The learned and prudent author is a zealous, but discreet, affertor of its rights. The descriptions of its curiosities are very complete, and the sine plates of the principal mausoleums are now become doubly precious since the destruction of the originals. The details of ceremonies of various kinds, which have been exhibited at this abbey, are curious to antiquaries, and accompanied by numerous anecdotes relative to the French history, not elsewhere to be found. The work is well written, not unworthy of the age of Louis XIV.

Lists of the tombs and relicks were commonly monly to be had at the abbey, before the revolution.

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Voyage pittoresque des environs de Paris, par M. D\*\*\*. De Bure. Paris. 1755. 8vo. 364 pages.

A description of the chief country-seats about Paris, especially of Versailles, with a preface, in which the water-works are defended against some reflections that had been cast upon them, and the gardens of England are held very cheap because they have no such squirting exhibitions. Statues are said in this work to be the soul of a garden!

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NISMES. Eclaircissemens sur les Antiquités de la ville de Nismes, par M. \*\*\*, R 3 Avocat

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Avocat de la même ville. Belle, Nismes. 1785. 8vo. 56 pages. Plates.

Historical. The plates are wretched.

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GENOA. Description des beautés de Gênes & de ses environs. Gravier. Genoa. 1781. 8vo. 143 pages. Plates.

Very full upon pictures. The plates are good and numerous. This feems to be an extract of some general work on Italy, but I have not found out of what.

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Pisa. Il forestiero erudito, o sieno compendiose notizie spettanti alla città di Pisa. Polloni & sons. Pisa. 1773. 8vo. 159 pages.

Begins with an entertaining compendious tketch of the history of this ancient republic.

Dante

Dante is here accused of blackening the character of the Pisans with respect to Count Hugolino's history. Some of the children of this unfortunate traitor to his country were not in their infancy, but actively partook of their father's guilt, and therefore perished with him. Our great Sir Joshua Reynolds has perpetuated their catastrophe, as related by Dante, in one of his finest pictures. It is a mistaken idea, however, that the family was all destroyed.

The accounts of the buildings of Pisa, the pictures, &c. are concise, but intelligent, and interspersed with historical particulars. The author defends the opinion of the inclined tower having been purposely built in that position.

FLORENCE. L'antiquario fiorentino, o sia Guida per osservar con metodo le cose notabili della città di Firenze. Florence. Cambiagi. 1781. 8vo. 270 pages. Map. A pretty full enumeration of all the curiofities of this rich mine of the arts, but fomewhat encumbered with florid descriptions and bombast commendation, which a traveller on the spot does not want, unless it be of an amusing kind, as in the following article.

Description de la Galerie Royale de Florence, par M. François Zacchiroli, Ferrarois. Allegrini. Florence. 1783. 8vo. 493 pages.

Of this publication I have already given both a character and a specimen in speaking of the Florentine Gallery, vol. i. p. 291. It is well written, with much taste, and a noble freedom of thought; but an ambition of shining, and a desire to keep up the attention, has frequently led the author into a fort of affectation, bordering upon the sentimental French style. He commends and censures with equal warmth. Bad princes are execrated without

without referve. The Medicis, as encouragers of the arts, are highly extolled; but his most exquisitely refined compliments are reserved for the then reigning Duke Leopold. His panegyrics of that prince might have stamped their author for a courtier—if (to use his own style) they had not been deferved. They are however a somewhat stattering picture of the fair parts of this prince's character, and it is not to be expected that a panegyrist should give any other.

Rome. La città di Roma, overo breve deferizione di questa superba città. Monaldini. Rome. 1779. 8vo. 446 pages, with plans.

This is the book I have quoted by the name of Magnani, which is faid to be that of the author. It is a very complete and intelligent guide on the whole. There are feveral others, many of them perhaps as good. The older ones are the most tedious, as well as erroneous, witness the next article.

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Mirabilia Romæ. Without place or date. 8vo. 15 pages.

In a bookfeller's shop at Vicenza I by accident met with this old Latin pamphlet, the type and style of printing of which shew it to be one of the earliest productions of the press, to all appearance between the years 1470 and 1480. The abbreviations are so numerous, and the spelling so bad, it cannot always be decyphered without difficulty.

No author's name appears, yet I have an imperfect recollection of having somewhere found this work mentioned as written by one of the first authors who have given the story of Pope Joan, and it is referred to as a proof that the said author deserved no credit for any thing, as will amply appear when I give an extract or two presently.

This curious publication begins with an enumeration of the towers and gates of the

city. Then follow the feven hills, the bridges, fites of imperial palaces, triumphal arches, and arches not triumphal; baths, theatres, cemeteries, temples, &c. in the mentioning of which are various errors not worth noticing. The following story is among the best in the book.

"Below the Capitol was a palace, for the " most part of gold, and ornamented with " precious stones, faid to be equal in value "to one third part of the whole world. "Here stood as many statues as there are or provinces in the world, and each of them "had a bell about its neck, fo contrived " by mathematical art, that when any coun-"try rebelled against the Roman govern-"ment, the corresponding statue of that " country turned its back upon the figure of "Rome, which was larger than the rest, and " exalted above them as the mistress of all, " and thus the bell at the neck of the rebel " flatue immediately rung. Upon which "the priests of the Capitol, to whose care "these figures were entrusted, related the " matter to the fenate, and legions were fent 55 without delay to quell the rebellion."

Here is a triumph for the venerators of ancient learning! What are our Cambridge professors, our Newtons, to such mathematicians as these! The celebrated opinion that former inhabitants of this earth had tails, seems no longer so very improbable. If they were as ingenious as this account makes them, they probably had horns and cloven feet into the bargain.

But to proceed with this wonderful book of the wonders of Rome. Here follows its account of the two statues on Monte Cavallo.

"The marble horses with the two naked men, and the woman surrounded with ferpents, sitting with a porphyry shell bestore her, signify as follows: In the reign of the Emperor Tiberius, there came to Rome two young philosophers, named Praxiteles and Phidias, who professed to be endued with such wisdom, that whatever the Emperor spoke in his chamber, they, though absent, would repeat to him word for word. This they performed, requesting that, instead of any pecuniary reward, their memory might be immoratialized.

talized. These philosophers therefore hav-

" ing two horses striking the earth with their

"hoofs, fignify the princes of this world.

"Their arms are lifted up, and their fingers

" bent, in the action of explaining futurity;

" and they are represented naked, to shew

"that all mundane wifdom was naked and

" open before them.

"The woman furrounded with ferpents, having a shell before her, signifies baptism and preaching; that whoever desired to go to the Lord could not, unless he were first washed in the shell, that is, in the baptismal font."

After this authentic account, curious antiquaries may fave themselves the trouble of enquiring whether the above figures represent Alexander taming his Bucephalus, or Castor and Pollux. One thing however we really learn from this blundering narrative, that the names of Praxiteles and Phidias, engraved on their bases, are not of a very modern date, but at least as old as the dark ages, and (considering the form of their letters) probably much older. They may there-

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fore be more authentic than has generally been supposed.

But here follows a still better story, concerning the equestrian statue in the Capitol, now ignorantly called Marcus Aurelius.

" Of the peafant fitting on a brazen horse. "At the Lateran palace" (it was there formerly) " is a certain brazen and gilt horse, " called the horse of Constantine; but it is " not fo. Let those who wish to know the "truth, read what follows. In the time of "the Confuls and Senators, a certain very " powerful King from the east came towards "Rome, afflicting the Romans with great " ravages and combats. Upon which a cer-" tain warlike rustic, of great fortitude and " valour, arose and sagaciously said to the " Confuls and Senators, 'What would he " deferve from the Senate who should deli-" ver you from your present tribulation?" "They answered him, saying, 'Whatever " he shall ask, that shall he obtain.' Upon " which he replied, 'Give me thirty talents " of gold, and immortalize my memory by " causing to be made a brazen horse, with.

my figure upon it; on these conditions I "will deliver you in a fhort time.' They " all agreed to the conditions. 'Then (faid "he) arise in the middle of the night, and " be all well armed, waiting in the cave be-" low the walls, and do whatever I shall bid "you.' They instantly agreed to this. The "rustic directly mounted his largest horse " without any faddle, and, taking a fcythe, " went into the fields as if meaning to gather " grass, when he saw the King for some ne-" ceffary occasion coming to a tree, upon " which a bird fat finging most delightfully. "This being perceived by the peafant, he " approached very near it; which the King's "attendants observing, and supposing him "to be one of their own people, began to "cry out, 'Fellow, don't touch the King; " if you meddle with him you shall be hang-" ed.' The ruftic, however, despising their "threats, and being a strong fellow and the "King but of small stature, he suddenly " feized him, and catching him up, placed " his Majesty before him upon the horse, "flying with all fpeed to the city, crying " with a loud voice to the citizens, who were

" concealed in the caves, ' Come forth and " destroy the King's army, for here he is him-"felf, before me, a captive." Upon which " they all came out and made a great flaugh-"ter, the remainder of the enemy's army " being put to flight. After the triumph " the Romans paid him the gold he had de-"manded, and made a statue in memory of "him, which they erected before the Late-" ran palace, fitting on a brazen horse gilt, " his right hand, with which he feized the "King, being stretched forth, and upon the " horse's head they placed a representation of "the bird, whose finging had been the oc-" casion of their victory. There was also "the figure of the King, of a fmall fize, " with his hands tied behind him as he was " taken, placed under the horfe above men-" tioned."

After this follows a pretended account of the Colifeum as it was originally. St. Silvefter is here faid "to have commanded "this temple, and many others, to be de-"ftroyed, left strangers visiting Rome on account of these ancient edifices, and the fame of the gods, instead of the churches "and

" and faints, should occasion a decay of "piety."

It is improbable that St. Silvester had power enough to accomplish so execrable a design, if he had the will. The very same thing has been laid to the charge of St. Gregory the Great; but Platina, and even Bayle, reject the accusation.

The rest of this ridiculous pamphlet is taken up with accounts of visions seen by Agrippa and Augustus, and of the anger of Totila against the servants of God. The reader may readily dispense with any farther extracts.

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Spiegazione de' Bassirilievi che si osservano nell' urna sepolchrale detta volgarmente d' Alessandro Severo, &c. Publicata dall' Abate Ridolfino Venuti. Amidei. Rome. 1756. 4to. 47 pages, 4 plates.

Referred to in my fecond vol. p. 209.

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Villa Borghese suori di Porta Pinciana. By Domenico Montelatici. Rome. 1700. 8vo. 321 pages. Plates.

A very full description of this celebrated villa and its curiofities, as they were arranged in the beginning of this century. The whole has been repaired, and the disposition of many parts changed within these few years, but nothing has been taken away.

The plates of this work are numerous; and though they by no means express the perfections of the sculptures they represent, any more than prints in general, yet they give an idea of their form and design.

LORETTO. Notizie della Santa Cafa di Maria Vergine venerata in Loreto. Sartorii. Loretto. 1786. 8vo. 88 pagés, 3 plates.

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The contents of this publication may eafily be imagined. The entire history of this holy house from the beginning, with its various journies, are related most circumstantially, as if the author really credited them, and he all along quotes his authorities. This is a similar proof, with the Mirabilia Romæ, that there is nothing some people will not write, and others believe. The whole would be amusing enough, were it not intermixed with matters too serious to be jested with, among which the frequent mention of divine agency, and the operations of "uncreated wisdom," make one shudder.

As to the present existing state of the holy house and its appurtenances, this is a most complete and faithful description. The several articles of its really astonishing treasury are detailed with great accuracy, with the names of the several contributors to it. The cuts are in wood.

Bologna. Pitture scolture ed architetture delle chiese, luoghi publici, palazzi & cafe della Città di Bologna & suoi subborghi. Longhi. Bologna, 1782. Svo. 599 pages.

A very full enumeration of every thing belonging to the arts to be feen in this famous city, with an ample index. The names of the artists, with some account of them generally added, is a peculiar merit in this guide-book.

VENICE. Forestiero illuminato intorno le cose piu rare e curiose antiche e moderne della Città di Venezia. Albrizzi. Venice, 1784. Svo. 439 pages. Plates.

Of all guide-books this has the quality of faying most with the least benefit to the reader. One would fcarcely imagine there

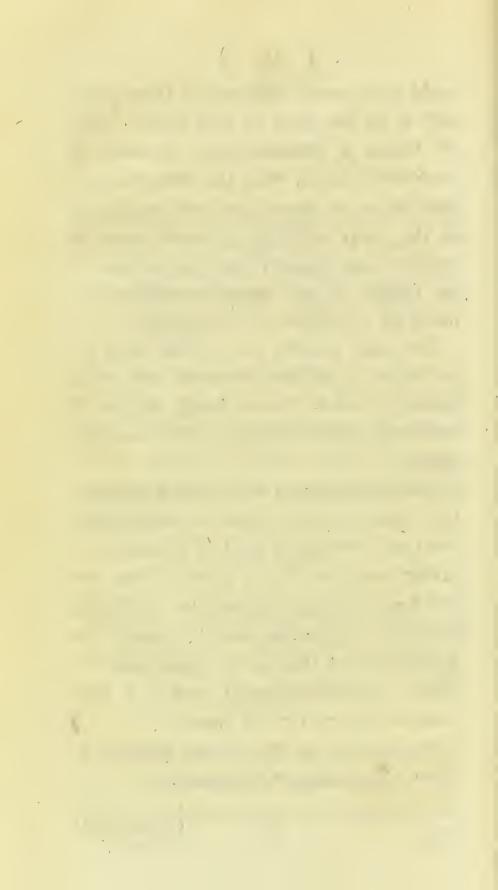
could

could be so much difference as there generally is in the merit of such books. This of Venice is crammed with accounts of nonsensical relicks, while the numerous pictures in every church are only mentioned in the lump, with the painters' names all together, and scarcely ever an account of the subject of each particular performance, much less a criticism on their merits.

The most valuable part of this book are the views of all the churches and public buildings, which, though small, are not ill executed, and in so intricate a town are really useful.

The Venetians (as well as the Bolognese) have been extremely polite to all the patriarchs and worthies of the Old Testament, in giving them the title of Saint; so that we find here churches dedicated to St. Moses, St. Job, St. Jeremiah, &c. by which the degradation of the title in some other instances is counterbalanced, and it is kept from becoming a term of reproach.

A catalogue of the Farsetti pictures is given at the palace of that name.



# GENERAL WORKS,

RELATING TO ITALY MORE ESPECIALLY,

IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER.

Addison. Remarks on several parts of Italy, &c. in the years 1701, 1702, 1703. 8vo. Tonson. London, 1705.

A work fufficiently well known. Its ftrength lies in the illustrations of classic authors, and apt quotations from them; with much unqualified satire against the Catholic superstitions and abuses; a subject upon which no Englishman at that time could be lukewarm. The style of this book is much inferior to the succeeding performances of its illustrious author.

S4 BARETTI.

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BARETTI. An account of the manners and customs of Italy, with observations on the mistakes of some travellers with regard to that country. By Joseph Baretti.

8vo. 2 vols. Davis. London, 1768.

This is a professed attack upon those travellers who are supposed to have given fuperficial and unfavourable accounts of Italy, principally Mr. Sharp. The attack, though acrimonious, is not always ill-founded; but the author in vain attempts to rescue the reputation of Venetian morals, or of his country in general, on the heads of cicifbeifm and affaffination; two fubjects on which the less is faid by an Italian the better. The scheme of Addison and others for the seizing of Loretto, is happily ridiculed, and defervedly cenfured. Its contrivance is a melancholy proof that religious bigotry will fo far make the best man a villain, of which indeed nobody need look far for proofs in

any age or country. I believe the truth on the whole lies between Mr. Sharp and Mr. Baretti; but with respect to intention and temper, the work of the former gives a much more favourable impression than that of the latter.

## \$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$

COCHIN. Voyage d'Italie ou recueil de notes

fur les ouvrages de Peinture & de Sculp
ture, qu'on voit dans les principales villes

d'Italie. Par M. Cochin. 8vo. 3 vols.

Tombert. Paris, 1773.

A professed artist-like criticism, in which less regard is paid to the design and expression of painting than one could have wished. The author seldom takes the trouble of enquiring what the subject of a picture is, except it may happen to be a Holy Family, or something equally obvious. About history in general he seems altogether ignorant and incurious. Nevertheless, on the subjects he understands, he is deep and intelligent, such

fuch as grouping, colouring, and effect. This is so far from being a complete account of Italy, even with respect to the arts, that Rome is totally undescribed, and the accounts of several other places are wanting, part of the author's notes having been lost.

The Manuel has made great use of Cochin's work.

## 0000000000

COYER. Voyage d'Italie, par M. l'Abbé
Coyer. Svo. 2 vols. Duchesne. Paris,
1776.

In a feries of letters addressed to a lady under the name of Aspasia, but intermixed with particulars which in many countries would not be addressed to a lady, and every where with much affectation, which it is to be hoped ladies in some countries would despise. The first paragraph is a model of the French sentimental style.

"Quand vous recevrez cette lettre, respectable Aspasie, j'aurai déja fait quelques lieues vers la patrie des Césars & des Papes. Me pardonnerez-vous de vous avoir trompée? Vous vous attendiez à un adieu; à vous! Laissons ce mot aux simples connoissances. L'amitié en souffre trop. Suis-je justifié?"

If the reader can get through a few fimilar passages, he will find the rest a pleasant fort of desultory chit-chat, mingled with information.

**6666666666** 

De la Lande, 8vo. 9 vols. and 1 vol. of maps. Second edition. Defaint, Paris, 1786.

The most universal assemblage of every thing relative to Italy that any traveller can want to know; but such universal works cannot excel in every department. This is professedly a compilation digested and corrected from the actual observation of the compiler. Nevertheless he has not always been so perfectly on his guard, but that bad authorities have often misled him; nor does he seem to possess much knowledge of the

fine arts. His account of laws and governments, as well as what relates to natural philosophy (not natural history), has much greater merit. That many errors are to be found in so great an undertaking is not to be wondered at, nor that the national partiality of a Frenchman should frequently appear.

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DUPATY. Travels through Italy, in a series
of Letters written in the year 1785.
By the Abbé Dupaty. Translated from
the French. 8vo. Robinsons. London,
1788.

Lively, fentimental and fententious, with more fusceptibility of the impressions of nature than of the principles of art, more generous warmth of feeling than cold discrimination of judgment, and greater purity of moral taste than veneration for the authority of others. It could have been wished there had been somewhat less of that studied vivacity of style, which looks so much like affectation, and which makes one suspect the author had been sometimes tempted to say a brilliant thing rather than a just one; sew books however, written in this style, have more solidity or truth of sentiment, most of them have a great deal less.

#### 

Ferber. Travels through Italy in the years
1771 and 1772, described in a series of
Letters to Baron Born, on the Natural
History, particularly the mountains and
volcanos of that country. By John
James Ferber, Professor of Natural
History at Mietaw. Translated from
the German by R. E. Raspe, with notes.
8vo. Davis. London, 1776.

Very deep and instructive on the mineralogy of Italy, with good descriptions of the antique, as well as recent, marbles, porphyries, &c. interspersed with some botanical remarks, and accounts of the naturalists then living, and their collections.

KEYSLER.

KEYSLER. Travels through Germany, Hungary, Bohemia, Switzerland, Italy and
Lorrain. By John George Keysler,
F. R. S. Translated from the German,
by M. Godfrey Schutze. 8vo. 4 vols.
Scott. London, 1758.

A plain, full, and circumstantial narrative, written in sections letters, but without any artistice to make them seem real ones. No casual variations of humour or spirits can be laid to the charge of this writer. Such propensities and prejudices as he has, appear always in the same degree on every similar occasion. He is no friend to the French, and is particularly angry at Louis XIV. vol. i. p. 127, for having a time-piece in which the Imperial eagle was made to tremble at the crowing of a cock. Mr. Keysler thinks it might have been a lion, or a figure of St. Peter; in short any thing but an eagle. The baby monarch has had an ho-

nour which could hardly have been expected, that a man of science should write half-a-score lines either in praise or dispraise of his toy.

There is an English edition of this work in quarto.

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MANUEL. Manuel de l'etranger qui voyage en Italie, &c. 8vo. Duchesne. Paris, 1778, with maps.

This little pocket volume I found of eminent fervice. It contains a compendious enumeration of the most celebrated objects in every place, with a sketch of the merits of many of them; what relates to pictures is chiefly taken from Cochin and De la Lande. There are eight maps of the roads, and an Introduction of 76 pages on the fine arts, well and sensibly written, and highly worthy the attention of those who are about to enter on the study of them, either as artists or amateurs. I do not know the author of this work.

#### @@@@@@@@

MARTYN. A Tour through Italy. By
Thomas Martyn, B. D. F. R. S. Professor of Botany in the University of
Cambridge. 8vo. Kearsley. London, 1791.
Map.

By far the most accurate, comprehensive, and commodious guide for a journey through Italy. It is much more full than the work last mentioned, containing ample catalogues of pictures and sculptures, the characters and accounts of which are remarkably concife, and no less discriminative. The descriptions of Rome, Florence, Naples, and Venice, are more full than the rest, but not more diffuse. The amiable writer, content with being ufeful, has left unattempted what is generally esteemed more brilliant, fame, though undoubtedly at his command. A habit of penetration and discrimination, with a facility of clear communication, acquired by the fystematic study of nature, are remarkably displayed in this performance.

MILLER.

#### \$666666666

MILLER. Letters from Italy in the years
1770 and 1771, by an English-woman.
8vo. 3 vols. Dilly. London, 1776.

The writer of these letters is uniformly fupposed to have been the late Lady Miller of Bath-easton. They exhibit an easy, natural, and entertaining account of Italy, abounding with strokes of humour, as well as intelligent remarks. Whether their fair authoress may happen to be in a cheerful or contemplative mood, her company is always pleasant, and not the less so for the conspicuous figure herself and her own feelings make in every scene. These letters have all the internal evidence of genuineness. Whether they may have been at all amplified for publication I will not determine. It should feem, as far as I have followed them and compared them with other books, that each letter was composed from a retrospect of the business of the preceding days, with the VOL. III. affistance affistance of books, principally De la Lande's work. Hence many passages are an epitome of his descriptions; but they consist of a tolerably judicious selection from his indiscriminating details, and are accompanied with so many new remarks, that it is easy to perceive Lady Miller had really seen every thing with her own eyes. She indeed submits her judgment too much to the direction of her guide, but occasionally bursts from such trammels, and always with advantage.

#### 00000000000

Montaigne en Italie par la Suisse & l'Allemagne en 1580 et 1581. 12mo. 3 vols. Le Jay. Paris, 1774.

This recital was evidently composed for the amusement of the author and his friends rather than for publication, and it accordingly remained in obscurity for near two centuries. Of its authenticity the style and

turn

turn of thought, so like Montaigne's Essays, are a sufficient proof. It is rather a history of the author than of the countries he visited, and so far highly curious. Every page brings him present to his readers, and his own delightful naiveté is every where conspicuous.

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Moore. A View of Society and Manners in Italy, with Anecdotes relating to some eminent characters. By John Moore, M. D. 8vo. 2 vols. Strahan and Cadell. London, 1781.

A most lively and well-written sketch of an Italian tour, too much celebrated and admired to need any new commendation. The subject of painting is purposely omitted. The anecdotes of the Venetian history are highly interesting. Who has not dropped a tear over the story of Foscari?

#### 0000000000

PELHAM. Town of Holland, Dutch Brabant, the Austrian Netherlands, and part of France, &c. 8vo. Kearsley. London, 1772.

Written by the late Counsellor Pelham: it was published afterwards with his name. The author faw the conjunction of a rabbet and a hen at Brussels. This may be, but I still doubt whether any body has yet seen their progeny.

#### \$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$

P10ZZI. Observations and Reslections made in the course of a Journey through France, Italy, and Germany. By Hester Lynch Piozzi. 8vo. 2 vols. Strahan and Cadell. London, 1789.

This publication is too well known, and its authoress too celebrated, to need a criticism

of genius, and few books are more full of ideas. Indeed it may be faid of Mrs. Piozzi, as of Cowley,

" Her turns too closely on the reader press;

" She more had pleafed us had she pleafed us less."

I know not whether we have a right to cenfure the style of this publication, or to regret that passages of the most dazzling beauty are introduced amid inaccuracies of composition, which might be taken for carelessness, were they not evidently laboured to reprefent ease. The whole is so peculiar, and so masterly in its own way, we have no standard to judge it by, and had better, perhaps, submit to be pleased, though we do not know exactly why.

900000000

RICHARD. Description historique & critique de l'Italie, par M. l'Abbé Richard. 8vo. 6 vols. Des Ventes. Dijon, 1766. With maps.

T 3

This

This is perhaps a more full, though fomewhat less voluminous, account of Italy than even De la Lande's work; it is also much less of a compilation, and the style and sentiments are of course more uniform. feems not to have been enough known to our English travellers in general, though much the best descriptive work for their use, De la Lande's being in great part collected from the local guide-books which they will find in every town. The Abbé Richard appears to be a man of general knowledge and tafte, who fees, judges, and determines for himself. Although he writes with great decorum, particularly with regard to religion, it is eafy to discover from his own observations, as well as from the historical facts he records, that he is no bigot to the defects of any religion, nor of any government. One could fometimes have wished that his accounts of buildings, pictures, &c. had been more discriminative and appropriate: his obfervations on men and manners are candid and faithful.

SANDYS. A relation of a journey, begun

A. D. 1610, foure bookes, containing
a description of the Turkish Empire, of
Egypt, of the Holy Land, of the remote
parts of Italy and Islands adjoyning.
Sixth edition. Folio. London, 1670.
240 pages. 50 plates.

Written by George Sandys, the youngest son of Edwin Sandys, Archbishop of York in Queen Elizabeth's time. He appears to have been an accomplished scholar and intelligent observer, though an indifferent writer. His style in prose is pedantic and crabbed, and nothing can be more ludicrous than his poetical translations of passages from the classics, which passages however he generally quotes with much learning and propriety. Naples and its environs are the only part of Italy illustrated in this book.

### 000000000000

SHARP. Letters from Italy, describing the Customs and Manners of that Country, in the years 1765 and 1766. By Samuel Sharp, Esq. 8vo. Cave. London. Third edition.

A much more authentic account of Italy than Mr. Baretti will allow, though it cannot be called a polite or a favourable one. The feverity with which it was treated, occasioned the publication of

A view of the customs, manners, drama, &c. of Italy, as they are described in the Frusta Letteraria, and in the account of Italy in English, written by Mr. Baretti; compared with the letters from Italy, written by Mr. Sharp. By S. Sharp, Esq. 8vo. Nicoll. London, 1768. 82 pages.

In this the censures of Italy, at which Mr. Baretti took so much offence, are shewn to be mild and flattering to what he had himself written on the same subject. Mr. Sharp repels his attacks with great moderation and justice, and has infinitely the best of the argument.

SMOLLETT. Travels through France and Italy. By T. Smollett, M. D. 2 vols. 8vo. Baldwin. London, 1766.

We perceive, immediately on entering upon the first page of this work, that we are visiting a sick and unfortunate friend, to whose peevishness and complaints we think it charitable to lend an ear, out of gratitude for the pleasure he has afforded us when in health. In the present case we are shocked to find certain little asperities, which always gave a tartness to our friend's character, even in his best humour, increased into frightful deformities. We find him unfortunate in some of the things he narrates, but mistaken

mistaken in others. We avoid contradicting him, out of compassion. We wish him better, and take leave with a resolution not to suffer our own humour to be contaminated by his.

#### 0000000000

WALKER. Ideas suggested on the spot, in a late excursion through Flanders, Germany, France, and Italy. By A. Walker, Lecturer on Experimental Philosophy. 8vo. 442 pages. Robson. London, 1790. Wooden cuts.

This has the appearance of what it professes to be, a genuine unaffected narrative. The respectable author scrupulously avoided all correction of his original remarks, by which means, what is lost in elegance is made up in sidelity. The style is professedly familiar, but nothing requires more delicate management than a familiar pen. Mechanics form the principal and most original feature in this tour; the sine

arts are not the most correct one. Proper names throughout are printed with wonderful inaccuracy.

#### <del>\*</del>

Winkelmann. Histoire de l'Art de l'Antiquité, par M. Winkelmann, traduite de l'Allemand par M. Huber. 3 vols. 4to. Breitkopf. Leipzig, 1781. Plates.

In spite of all the puny attacks which have been made upon the character of Winkelmann as a critic in the arts, this work will ever prove him a first-rate genius and a most acute observer. His own freedom from disguise, and his warmth verging towards petulance when contradicted, or when in the company of insensible tasteless people, made him several enemies, all of whom may be referred to two classes, the stupid and the envious. Those who have studied the objects he illustrates with his book before them, will be struck with his acute penetration, and

and ingenuity of conjecture, on a thousand different occasions; and, unless very ungrateful, will acknowledge that he has given them at once more pleasure, and more information, than any other writer in the same line of study. He may now and then be carried away by a theory; but those who read him must have profited very little by his instructions, or be themselves very deficient in judgment, if they know not in every case how far to follow him.

WRIGHT. Some Observations made in travelling through France, Italy, &c. in the years 1720, 1721, and 1722. By Edward Wright, Esq. 2 vols. 4to. Millar. London, 1764. Second edition. Plates.

Why these observations were so long withheld from the public I know not, nor in what year the first edition appeared; it was

was certainly but a fhort time before the publication of the fecond. This is a work rather of learning than taste, and of a very general scope. The style is far from elegant, much interlarded with Latin, French, or Italian words and phrases. Some of the finest Grecian statues are called genteel. The plates are rude, and totally destitute of the grace or expression of the originals they represent.

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Young. Travels during the years 1787, 1788, and 1789, undertaken more particularly with a view of ascertaining the cultivation, wealth, resources, and national prosperity of the kingdom of France. By Arthur Young, Esq. 4to. Rackham. Bury St. Edmunds. Map.

Full and intelligent upon every thing relative to agriculture, the professed object of the work. It is moreover one of the strongest publications in the English language against all sorts of aristocratic tyranny, and undue authority of every kind, being sounded at every step, not on speculative theories, but on actual observation. We meet with peculiarly warm remarks of this kind.

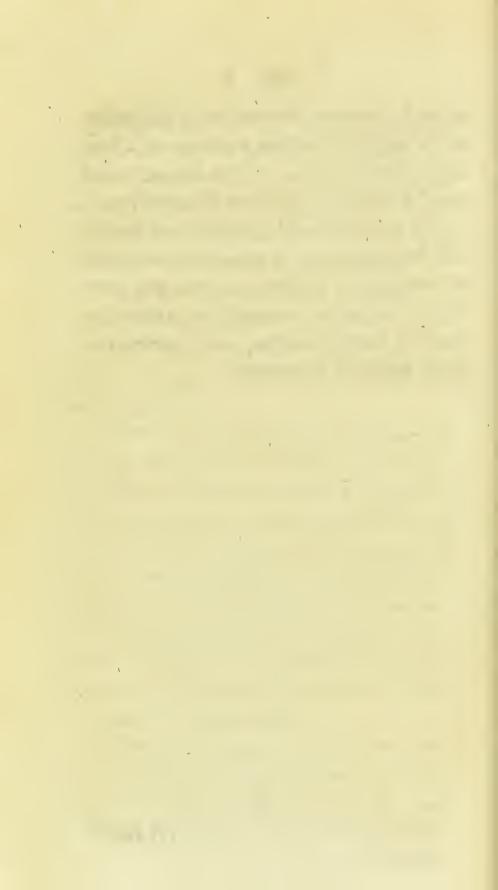
"A grand feigneur will at any time, and in any country, explain the reason of improveable land being left waste." p. 43.—Again, speaking of wars between France and England,

"What a fatire on the government of the two kingdoms, to permit in one the prejudices of manufacturers and merchants, and in the other the infidious policy of an ambitious court, to hurry the two nations for ever into wars that check all beneficial works, and spread ruin where private exertion was busied in deeds of prosperity!" p. 47. This indeed is somewhat paradoxical, as the "prejudices of manufacturers and merchants" are generally against wars.

"What have kings, and ministers, and parliaments, and states, to answer for their prejudices, seeing millions of hands that would be industrious, idle and starving, through

through the execrable maxims of despotism, or the equally detestable *prejudices* of a feudal nobility!" p. 84. "The destruction of rank" is said (p. 151) "not to imply ruin."

The author, though generally an enthufiast for his plough, is sometimes in danger of becoming a cicisbeo. p. 204 and 208. He is every where entertaining, always instructive in his own line, and sometimes in other walks of knowledge.



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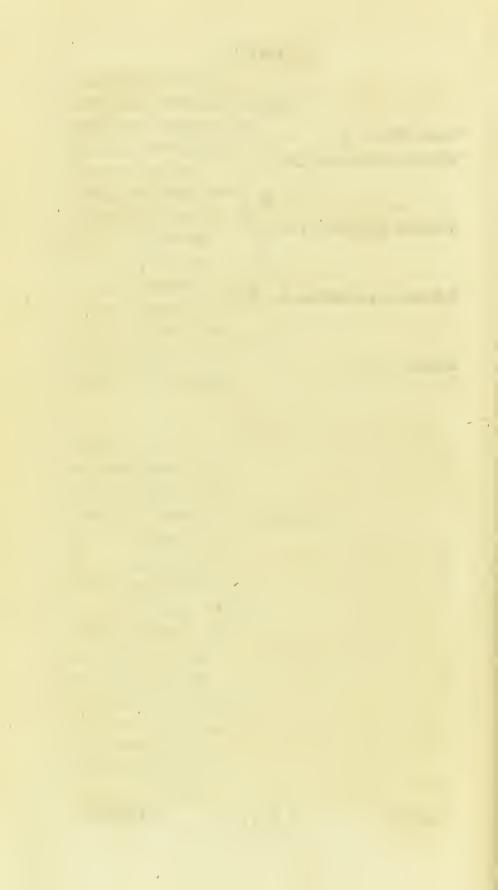
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